THE TOON

SCREEN CARTOONISTS LOCAL 1461

vol. 1 New York December 17th. 1943 No. 1

TERRYTOON'S INC. GUILTY OF UNFAIR LABOR PRACTICES.
Prexy McKee must be offered reinstatement as must Sam Singer.

In an Intermediate Report to the National Labor Relations Board dated Dec. 6, 1943, Howard Myers, Trial Examiner, stated conclusions of law to the effect that "by discriminating in regard to the hire and tenure of employment of Robinson McKee and Samuel Singer thereby discouraging membership in Screen Cartoonists Local 1461, the respondent has engaged in as is engaging in unfair labor practices, within the meaning of Section 8 (3) of the Act." and that

"By interfering with, restraining, and coercing its employees in the exercise of the rights guaranteed in Section 7 of the Act, the respondent has engaged in and is engaging in unfair labor practices within the meaning of Section 8 (1) of the Act."

On the basis of these conclusions of law the Trial Examiner recommended that: 1. Cease and desist from:

(a) Discouraging membership in Screen Cartoonists Local 1461, or any other labor organization of its employees, by discharging, or refusing to reinstate any of its employees, or in any other manner discriminating in regard to the hire and tenure of employment or any terms or conditions of their employment;

(b)In any other manner interfering with, restraining, or coercing its employees in the exercise of their right to self-organization, to form, join, or assist labor organizations, to bargain collectively though representatives of their own choosing, and to engage in concerted activities for the purpose of collective bargaining or other mutual aid or protection as guaranteed in Section 7 of the Act.

2. Take the following affirmative action which the undersigned finds will effectuate the policies of the Act:

(a) Offer to Robinson McKee and Samuel Singer immediate and full reinstatement to their former or substantially equivalent positions, without prejudice to their seniority or other rights and privileges;

(b) Make whole Robinson McKee and Samuel Singer..... for any loss of pay they may have suffered;

(c) Post immediately in conspicuous places in its New Rochele, New York, plant, and maintain for a period of at least sixty (60) consecutive days from the date of posting, notices to its employees stating: (1) that the respondent will not engage in the conduct from which it is recommended that it cease and desist in paragraphs 1; (2) that the respondent will take the affirmative action set forth in paragraphs 2 (a) and (b) of these recommendations; and (3) that the respondent's employees are free to become or remain members of Screen Cartoonists Local 1461..... and that the respondent will not discriminate against any employee because of membership in or activities of that organization;

(d) Notify the Regional Director for the Second Region in writing within ten (10) days from the date of the receipt of this Intermediate Report, what steps the respondent has taken to comply herewith.

Those conclusions and recommendations resulted from a lenthy hearing during the week of November 8th., which was brought about by charges filed with the N.L.R.B. by the Local. We charged that Terrytoons, Inc. was engaging in unfair labor practices and that McKee and Singer had been discharged for union activities.

In discussing his proceedings in his report to the N.L.R.B. the Examiner said: "The undersigned finds McKee's version of what transpired at this interview (when McKee was discharged) to be substantially in accord with the facts and that Terry made the statements attributed to him by McKee. The latter was a credible witness, Terry was not."

This is the first time in the history of the cartoon industry that an employer has been convicted of unfair laborpractices. We sincerely hope that such a need never again arises and that our relationship with all Employers can be as amicable and fruitful as they are with most.

REPORT ON GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING HELD DECEMBER 7th.

Future meetings: Subject to the approval of the Famous unit, it was voted to hold the monthly meetings in New York one month and in New Rochelle the next. The next meeting of the Local will be held early in January in New York City, the exact time and place to be decided later and the information given in a subsecuent issue of 'Top Cel'

On Famous Unit: At that plant negotiations are continuing. After a rather hectic week for the Committee during which time they met with Sam Buckwald, a unit meeting was held at the Capitol Hotel on Monday Dec. 6th. While some minor concessions has been made by the management of the Studio, the issues involving salary increases still remained 'status quo.'

As a result, the membership voted to reject those concessions already made and directed the Committee to notify Mr. Buckwald of that decision along with our intention of applying to the Mediation Board. The Negotiation Committee consists of Tom Golden, Woody Gelman and Jury Weiner with the Attorney Mervin Cristenfeld and Pepe Ruiz.

On Terry Unit: At a conference before the New York State Mediation Board on November 24, the company agreed to sign a contract on all points but wages and a few minor items that were to be certified to the War Labor Board. However, the company reneged on its agreement and refused to sign unless we accepted their wage proposals. After having the Local's attorney clear up a number of inaccurate statements that the company had made on War Labor Board policies and procedure, the members again voted to stand by our original demands and let the W.L.B. decide what we were entitled to. The case was certified to the War Labor Board on Dec. 14th.

A vote of thanks was given to the negotiating committee of the Terrytton Unit for the splendid job they had done in the face of the most trying of circunstances.

The Membership voted to instruct the Terrytoon Negotiating Committee not to meet with the company for purposes of collective bargaining unless they were accompanied by their legal adviser.

Initiation Fees and Dues: As the Local is now well organized, it was decided that after Jan. 1st., the initiation fee will be increased. Since most of our members are paid up in dues for the months of Nov. and Dec. the members decided that all new members must be paid up for those two months to be considered in good standing. Beginning with January 1944, all dues must be paid on the first of each month. It is of utmost importance that dues are kept up to date. This is the very least we can do to show our solidarity.

It was voted, subject to the approval of the Famous Unit to accept the system of initiation fees now being followed on the West Coast:

When earning up to $35.00 per week	$ 25.00
" " $35.01 to $64.00 P.W.	50.00
Thereafter	100.00

FLIPPINGS: The Bill Hudsons off for Miami for a three week holiday..... Lou Zukor from the Coast, with Famous again..... Lest we forget: Steve Muffatti (Deep in the heart of Texas) PFC/ 1297th. M.P. Co. Camp Barkley, Texas.. Howard Smith (enjoying his Lil Almer shoes) Pvt. 42052399, 1229 R.C. Co. A, Bks. 8, Fort Dix, N.J. Geo. Germanetti (Just moving along) Pvt. 42005396, Co. F, S.C.U. 1909, Ft. Lewis, Wash.....Gordon Whittier back at Famous after serving 60 days..... Joe Oriolo & family heading sunshine way (Fla.)..... Phyllis, our Financial Secretary in bed with grippe.... Lee Donahue came to work Monday with his scotty dog. It was a study in black and white..... Vinci Guerra a proud Father..... Last general membership meeting place was a new one. Unfortunatly the janitor was sick and unable to heat the place, so we furnish heat with our arguments.....

From the Motion Picture Daily. Dec. 8/43: "31% Increase in Paramount Deals: Agnew.- Sales of the first two groups of Paramount 1943-44 features are running 31 per cent ahead of similar numerical groups last year, Neil Agnew, Vice President and General Sales Manager revealed here yesterday. This is a record increase since the start of decree selling by Paramount, Agnew added. He stated ..... that sales of short subject are running 33 per cent ahead of last year..... Sales of short subjects are placed at 6,108 independents contracts, compared to 4,592 for a similar period last year, Agnew reveled, representing an increase of 33 per cent over last year."

In journalistic circles, 'putting a paper to bed' is the vernacular for the final collecting and aditing of the various items before the presses begin rolling. We use that expression in this instance with our tongue in our check.

We set about the task in this, the first issue of 'Top Cel' with the entirely optimistic feeling that it shall be the first of many to follow. It shall be our trust and endeavour to present all of the news concerning the mighty masters of the pen, pencil and brush not only accurately and efficiently, but also as regularly as is possible.

We go to our first 'press' with the sincerest hope that it will be our pleasure to bring you nothing but good news.

The T O P C E L Screen Cartoonists Local 1461

Vol. 1 New York, January 10th. 1944.- No. 2

NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The next scheduled meeting of the Local will be held in New York at the Capitol Hotel, 8th. Avenue and 51st. Street, on Tuesday, Jan. 11 at 7:00 P.M. This will be the first joint meeting of both the Famous and Terry units to be held here. Prior to this one, meetings had been held at New Rochelle but at the last membership meeting it was decided to alternate between the two cities. We are quite sure that members of both units will see the fairness of such an arrangement and not let the extra bit of traveling keep them from attending any of the meetings.

Elections to fill existing office vacancies in the organization are on the agenda. The By-laws provide for two degelates to be chosen for the Executive Board from each unit. As the Board is the 'working' body of the organization, the members will readily understand the extreme importance of selecting capable and efficient representatives. The Executive Board incidentally, has decided to meet twice each month from now on which makes our choice even more important.

This is the way the Executive Board shapes up today along with the existing vacancies.

President	Robinson McKee
Vice President	Ralph Pierson
Recording Sec'y	Woody Gelman
Financial Sec'y	Phyllis Shagrin
Conductor	To be elected
Warden	Phil Lazara
Treasurer	Gordon Whittier
Trustee I	Martin Taras
" II	Johnny Gent
" III	To be elected
Delegates from Famous	TWO to be elected
" " Terry	TWO to be elected

The initiation of new members will take place at this meeting. Also other business to be taken up include the acceptance of the initiation fee rate now in effect in Coast units.

The Executive Board has recommended that a committee be selected to take charge of 'TOP CEL'. At the January 11th meeting of the membership at the Capitol Hotel, it is expected that an editor and a staff will be chosen. We are pleased to announce that the first issue of 'TOP CEL', from all reports, was very well received.

Since the end of the summer when we first began to have outside assistance in our organizational work and contract negotiations, we have recognized the necessity of having a single responsible person coordinating our efforts and planning our future organizational work in the commercial studios, comic strips, etc., particularly if the person involved is from our industry, familiar with our problems and experienced in labor relations. Pepe Ruiz has been filling that need for the past four months.

After serious consideration of the problems involved the Executive Board will recommend to the membership at the next meeting that the Local retain Pepe as its Business Agent for $50.00 per week.

This, of course, is a vitally important step in the union development, not only because of the choice of the personnel to handle our affairs but also because the incurring of such a salary obligation makes the regular payment of dues imperative. The Board therefor urges that every member be present at the coming meeting so that everyone voice can be heard before any final decision is made.

FLIPPINGS: Now that alcoholidays are over, we have Lawrence Riley with us ..... Paul Bush leaving shortly to do some Theatrical animation..... At Terry's the lack of manpower wasn't quite so noticable until X'mas rolled around. The gals all had their pieces of mistletoe pinned on conspicious spots, but their percentage against the male spieces was too great..... Vivian Levy, Eleanor Hansen and Shirley Jacoby left Famous New Years eve.....

A BREAK: Because of circumstances beyond our control, the Eastern Chapter of the Screen Cartoonists found itself in arrears in the payment of the monthly tax to the Brotherhood. Thanks to the pleas of Pepe Ruiz through Herb Sorrell, the General President, and then before the Vice President and general Organizer here, a clean financial slate was obtained as of January 1st., 1944. As these concessions are very seldon granted, we are indeed thankful for Pepe's intervention and the resultant saving of over $500.00

FLEISCHER FORMS NEW CARTOON FIRM (Daily Variety, Dec. 17th.)

"Dave Fleischer, cartoon Producer, took out articles of incorporation early in week for new company to be known as Animation, Inc. Mr. Fleischer will be President, and Walter Colmes, Indie Producer, is listed as Veepee. Object of concern is to provide studios with cartoons to be blended in with real-life action, similar that tried out in Colmes' recently completed 'Trocadero'. Experiment was so successful that Fleischer and Colmer organized new company."

DUES: It would not be amiss at this point to again remind the members of the importance of paying their initiation fee and monthly dues promptly. Tom Golden and Vinciquerra of the Famous and Terry plants respectively, deserve a vote of thanks for their swell efforts. YOU can make their jobs much easier by paying your dues on the first of each month.

MORE FLIPPINGS: Sgt. Lou Guarnier of the Signal Corp unit, going to art school.... Georgette Sorensen and Gloria De Gregoriis in-betweening at Famous.....In the Coast there are two new puppet studios getting into production. Lewis Bunin a well known puppeteer has moved onto the MGM lot and John Sutherland has contracted for release thru U.A..... Martha Cochran, Terry's, leaving for a vacation on Calif... Liesel Howson back from Fla..... Nicholas Irwin happy again..... Terrytoons, Inc. have complied 100% with the recent ruling of the National Labor Relations Board.... Mike Tessa has left for the Army. He is stationed at Alabama..... Jane Childs left Famous.... Dave Fleisher is not at Screen Gems any more. "The beginning of the end started for him when he fought his employees in New York" says The Animator..... The last four pictures out of Famous have shown a marked inprovement over former product. Look out Walt! ...Shane Miller back after a 3 week siege of the flu. We are told that Michael Prendergast of Terry's Camera department, will take the iniciative this year.....

'TOP CEL' takes this oppotunity, in its first issue of 1944, to wish all the employees at Famous, Terry, the Signal Corp and the studios on the Coast a Victorious and Happy New Year.
With the tearing off of the last page of the 1943 Calendar, we sincerely hope the New Year brings a speedy and at the same time, favorable termination of negotiations. We look forward to the twelve month period ahead most optimistically.

TOP CEL

Screen Cartoonists
Local
1461

Vol. I No. 3
New York, Jan. 24, 1944.

EDITOR: S. Knoring; Ass't Editors: L. Riley, E. Levitan; Terry-Toon Rep.: to be elected.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING HELD

The last meeting of Local 1461 saw the election of Judy Weiner and Bob Little as delegates from the Famous Unit to the Executive Board; Dave Tandler as Conductor, and the Famous Unit staff for TOP CEL. TOP CEL eagerly awaits its Terry Toon news correspondents to be elected at the next meeting at New Rochelle.

The main business of this meeting centered around the appointment of Pepe Ruiz at a salary of $50. per week, this sum to cover the withholding tax and all expenses involved in the job of being business agent. Too involved a subject for a single vote, the motion was broken down into: (1) Do we need an outside business agent? (2) Do we need a full, or part-time agent? (3) Do we want Pepe Ruiz at $50. per week? The results voted in by a strong majority were: (1) Yes. (2) Full time. (3)Pepe Ruiz was accepted "at $50. per week until the contract is signed or until such time that we decided to dispense with his services, and that Pepe Ruiz was to accept the position with these provisos.

The discusssion preceding the votes involved the practicability of having a non-paid volunteer union member to act as business agent. There was no response to a general appeal for a volunteer. The reasons given included pressing outside interests and the feeling of inability to act freely while in the position of employee.

Meeting Held (con't.)

A full time business agent was voted in because said agent must be at the Union's instant call. This same argument ruled out using an A. F. of L. representative who might not be available exactly when needed. The next joint meeting will go into the financial end more fully.

Mr. Colin MacDonald, International Organizer, addressed the membership regarding the cancellation of a $837.60 debt incurred by Local 1461 for per capita taxes. Starting as of January, 1944, the per capita tax should be paid regularly.

Mr. MacDonald turned over $53.80 which he had held in trust for the now defunct Miami Local. In addition, $112.75 was returned to the local which consisted of cash paid in for initiation fees by the Famous Unit.

MOST INTERESTING

According to "Variety", Walt Disney productions, although devoting major portion of facilities to U. S. agencies on a non-profit basis, net-incomed $681,536. for the fiscal year ending last October 2nd, as against $308,930. in the preceding fiscal year.

From "The Exchange": "Greatest gains in earnings from 1942 through 1943 were made by film companies.

F L I P P I N G S ....

Eddie Rehberg at the Triboro Hospital, Jamaica, New York, would like to hear from Local 1461 by letters, cartoons, and/or feelthy pictures..... ..... Myron Waldman, now of the U.S. Signal Corps, has been around autographing his new book "Eve". Myron wishes his boss would send him to India... .....now they tell us that Sgt. Lu Guarnier of the Signal Unit is not in Art School, but taking Basic Training in N. J. ....sent to see a G.I. film release on bonds, fifty Signal Corps men responded by rushing off to the Red Cross blood donor center. Go Thou and Do Likewise.....

S T R I C T L Y B U S I N E S S

Ex-members from Miami, or members from Local 852 in Hollywood, with withdrawal cards are to request clearance cards. A lapsed withdrawal card requires an application as a new member. All dues payments must commence with the month of November, 1943.

Thanks to Tom Golden for the swell job he did as dues collector. Mory Reden is taking his place. Collectors will be assigned to each department.

C O A S T - TO - C O A S T

From The Animator pn production: "New releases. Fresh from Schloss is 'Wakiki Wabbi'. This opus is notable for the imaginative experimentation of its layout and background, and the discovery that a flat tone can carry background movements. Novel but not so successful was the use of tapa cloth patterns with overlays of stylized foliage splotches as backgrounds for action on a typical tropical isle. It was only an unfortunate value choice that kept this simple solution from succeeding. As it is, it camouflages rather than clarifies the characters. Schloss is pacing the current background breakaway from the cute.

Production Units, a new idea on the West Coast, is basically a plan to have a unit responsible for, say, five shorts of a minimum of 600 feet per year. The hours worked, the vacations, etc., are the business of the unit .... if it gets out the work."

Something analogous to the minimum unit was set up at Disney's to produce their technical pictures.

The long planned, long overdue Disney Labor-Management Committee is finally in action, consisting of ten members, five from each group.

At Schloss, back from their one-week Christmas vacations, the employees discovered that the promised renovation, fumigating, and general re-habilitation that had been promised, and for which, ostensibly, the studio had been closed had been limited to one room.

At Gems, the acceptance of the Unit Production System is being considered.

Coast-to-Coast (cont.)

FROM THE EDITOR:

TOP CEL will welcome any "Flippings", "Opinions", and "Ideas" -- so hand them in to the staff member nearest you.

Volume I - Number 4
February 17, 1943, New York, N. Y.

Editor: S. Knoring
Asst. Editors: L. Riley, E. Levitan

REPORT ON LAST MEETING

The Famous Unit of Local 1461 met at the Commodore Hotel last Wednesday to accept or reject the current proposed contract in part or total.

The votes were taken after separating the two main issues into:
a) the minimum salary acceptable in individual departments, and
b) the acceptance of the incentive bonus system. The vote was so taken for convenience, it being understood that one issue influenced the other.

(Ed. Note: Several large and influential unions have favored the incentive bonus plan as a fair plan which will benefit employer and employee; the employer getting increased production and increased profits with the same overhead and the employee an increase in the money he takes home though his base salary (this in itself should be fair) remains the same. This would be the happy result of a productive inter-department teamwork. To be frowned upon would be "dog eat dog" competition whereby an impossible quota might be set at a future date. Standards for production in the cartoon field, such as an individual quota, whether by footage or drawings, can be more harmful than helpful. It is well known that footage count and drawing count can easily lie about the individual's ability. As an example, the "Animator" currently discusses quotas as follows:

Report on Last Meeting (con't.)

"As long ago as September, 1942 when the Guild was negotiating the Disney contract with Mr. O'Rourke, we discussed footage, which is the heart of this issue. At that time, Mr. O'Rourke stated that the method followed by certain employers of computing production by animators and their assistants on a straight footage basis was senseless. He compared this situation to the Garment Industry, with which he is very familiar, where, according to Mr. O'Rourke, the problem was met by setting different prices for each different garment, depending on the complexity of the operations required to make that garment. He said that if workers were called upon to perform more arduous and more involved specific tasks, their piece rates were evaluated upwards and settled accordingly; and that the union and the employers participated jointly in each such settlement. It was then agreed by the Guild and Mr. O'Rourke that computing production in this industry on a straight time footage basis was incorrect because it overlooked the many qualitative differences between the content of each scene, and made no greater allowance for the complex than for the simple scene. At the Disney Studio this situation had long been recognized, and there, at one time in computing an animator's work credit was given at the rate of anywhere from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ times screen credit, and this was done by a committee which reviewed the particular animator's specific contribution; he

was accordingly credited on the basis of the content, the complexity and the involved character of each scene, and not on any simple footage theory. As a result, greater credit was given for example, for the creation of the "Seven Dwarfs Dance with Snow White" scene than for the depiction of puffs of smoke coming from some toy engine."

It would be inadvisable to experiment here on something that has been rejected by the majority of the industry.)

Acceptable salaries were voted upon. Various departments wished additional conditions re: the bonus plan, such as corrections effects, grouping of apprentices and experienced workers. Strong sentiment was expressed for a union shop and also for a security clause being included in the contract. This would give the union the right to dispute questionable firings.

S H O P T A L K

Entries for "Oscar":

SCREEN GEMS:	"Imagination"
METRO:	"Yankee Doodle Mouse"
GEORGE PAL:	"The 500 Hats of Bartholomew Cubbins"
DISNEY:	"Reason and Emotion"
LANTZ:	"The Dizzy Acrobat"
SCHLESINGER:	"Greetings, Bait"

The only two studios that did not make entries were Famous and Terry. (For-r-r shame!)

The new permanent voice for "Andy Panda" as signed by Walt Lantz will be Walter Tetley. You know Tetley as Leroy in the "Great Gildersleeve" on WEAF Sunday night.

Mexico will be the first to try out the visual education project which is designed to reduce illiteracy in the Western Hemis-

phere. Disney's cartoons will be used to teach reading, writing, biology, physiology, etc. These plans are being worked on by representatives of the U. S. Government, Mexico, and the Disney Studios.

F L I P P I N G S . . . .

JOE DENEROFF has completed the cycle.....back at Famous after four years....last stop was the 1st Motion Picture Unit of Culver City making pictures for the Army Air Force.....GORDON SHEEHAN now directing at a commercial studio.... HOWARD POST is making his debut at in-betweening.....GEORGETTE SORENSON, one of Famous' new in-betweeners to be is now Mrs. Johnny Clark.....seems that RUTH GORMAN and RHODA GRAPEK have been secretly depositing at the Blood Bank.....DENNY CUNNINGHAM is doing all right at M.G.M....with sunshine too.....SAMMY TIMBERG is awaiting the arrival of a b-a-b-y..... HERBIE FRANKEL now with the Publicity Dep't. at M.G.M. Also seen at the Blood Bank were ELI LEVITAN, OTTO FEUER and RUBE GROSSMAN..... wall sockets scare NORMA KORN who's afraid of "Transfusions".....who could say "Fresh from Schloss"? (last issue of TOP CEL)

TOP CEL hopes to have flippings from the Terry Unit in the next issue.

- KNOWING OUR UNION -
The Executive Board

A total of 14 people form the membership of the Executive Board.

The President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary (collects money), Treasurer (gives out money) Conductor (administers oaths) and Warder (Sgt. at Arms) plus three Trustees (check finances) and

two delegates from each unit. (The Business Agent is not a member although he attends, makes reports and carries out instructions given him.)

The Board meets twice a month, the first and third Monday. It brings reports and general recommendations to the Membership, administers small matters like paying bills, sending letters, etc., and also acts in the capacity of an advisory body. For example, in the latter instance, the negotiations committee of the Famous Unit which is composed of three members, cannot very easily call a general membership meeting for each problem. Here the Board represents the Membership.

Any union member is invited to be present at any executive meeting, although he does not possess a vote.

The General Membership acts as the last word in any union matter and has the power to accept or reject any idea put forth by the board.

A well informed General Manager in a check and balance system with the Executive Board is vital to form a responsible and progressive union.

T O P C E L

SCREEN CARTOONISTS
Local 1461

EDITOR: S. Knoring
Asst. Editors: L. Riley
E. Levitan

Vol. I No.5 New York, N. Y. March 20, 1944

NEGOTIATIONS NEWS

Contract of the Famous Unit of Local 1461 signed and will be submitted to the War Labor Board for approval after the management and union decide on the phraseology and exact classification of each listed job.

A copy of the contract (Woody Gelman, keeper) is open to any member's inspection.

The Terrytoon contract came before the War Labor Board last March 13th. We are waiting their decision.

NOTES ON LAST EXEC. AND MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

The payment of the initiation fee of $5. will be extended through February 29th,1944, after which time the regular initiation fee will remain in effect.

In order that the general membership have access to information about the Brotherhood Constitution and our local by-laws, it was decided to buy a small quantity of the constitutions to be sold at cost (10¢) and to have the by-laws mimeographed for general distribution.

"Sparky", working foreman at Terry became a test case when he requested a withdrawal card because our by-laws exclude supervisors. After investigating the matter, it was decided that the ruling does not apply to "Sparky" since he has no power to hire or fire and works as an employee in coordination with the rest of the employees.

It was recommended that a list of former employees now in the armed forces be secured through the management. Any member who knows a cartoonist-serviceman's address is requested to give this information to Pepe Ruiz, so that it may be put on TOP CEL'S mailing list. Judging from the reaction given to the "Animator", the West Coast's union paper, the home news is very much appreciated.

NOTES ON MEETINGS (Cont.)

The Business Agent was voted an expense account.

Mory Redon was elected Warden to the Executive Committee.

SHOP TALK

From the "Animator":

"At the January membership meeting, Al Amatuzio reported on the new labor-management committee at Disney's. The committee is composed of ten men, five from the management and five from the employees. Three seats are permanent for each and three are revolving. Since there are thirty-three unions on the lot, the committee is not strictly from this Local (852). It was started as of the first of the year. At the first meeting an idea was presented from the employees which will save the studio thousands of dollars on commercial films."

From "Motion Picture Daily":

"George Pal was given a special citation for development of a new technique in comedy shorts as evidenced in his 'Puppetoons'."

FLIPPINGS.....

GEORGE CANNATA...fresh from Schless to Famous....ABNER KNEITEL and WALLY WALWORTH... now able seamen .... JOE DENEROFF...still a devotee of the photographic arts..... BERNADETTE PILLET...visiting in Montreal.....LILLIAN GROSSMAN (Linday Grayson) a new addition to Harry Conover cheesecake.... MINA MORRISSEY, a new member of the matching department..... KATHERINE CHAILLE is knitting pink elephants.....there must be a better way to see 'em..... EMIL McCORMICK, Leonard's brother, reported a war prisoner. His mother was recently awarded the air medal.....ROSALIE SOCOLOV puts in overtime as a volunteer aid for the overseas patients at Mitchell Field Hospital.

* * * * *

KNOW YOUR UNION

\- - - -

The General Membership:

Excluding the rules of the by-laws which regulate the method of conducting the general business, the General Membership is the sole ruler of the organization. The health of the union depends on it. Each member being an integral part and each member responsible for any action taken by the Local. A member who gripes about what "they" are doing is admitting to his own lack of responsibility. He has his individual vote and the opportunity to voice his opinion

KNOW YOUR UNION (Cont.)

at an open hearing and bring other votes to his side by the power of superior argument.

It is understood of course that once the General Membership takes a position on any subject, that such decision has been arrived at democratically, vote for vote, that members who weren't present for various reasons have forfeited their opinions and that therefore, all the members owe their allegiance to the decision even if they had been the strongest exponents of the "loyal opposition".

We've heard quite a bit about "bad" unions in the daily press. W. Pegler for one, has written himself hoarse on the subject. Unions in themselves are not bad, based as they are on the most elementary democracy. And it stands to reason that only members who do not take active participation in meetings but let off eloquently in "parlor" conversations taking pot shots at their more energetic union brothers have the makings of what has been misnamed as "bad" unions.

All meetings are important. All decisions are vital.

* * * * * *

TOP CEL
Vol. 1 No. 6
New York, April 7, 1944

Editor: S. Knoring; Ass't Editors: L. Riley, E. Levitan, S. Kessler. Screen Cartoonists, Local 1461.

Pepe Ruiz, B.A., 800 Riverside Dr. NYC Wadsworth 3-2821
Marvin Cristenfeld, Att'y, 30 Broad St. Hanover 2-8667

WHAT SHALL WE DO ABOUT THE WAR LABOR BOARD DECISION

The next General Membership meeting will take place in New Rochelle on Tuesday, April 11th. It is most important that all Terry people be there, as the recent opinion given by the W.L.B. will be discussed and our future procedure be determined

GENERAL NOTICES

The Executive Board meets the first and third Mondays of each month. The General Membership meets the second Tuesday of each month.

The agreement signed with Famous Studios on March 13, was submitted to the W.L.B. for approval on March 30. All provisions of the agreement others than those governing wages & vacations are now in effect.

FROM THE BOARD

Recommendations of the Executive Board for the General Membership meeting at New Rochelle on next Tuesday April 11th.

To pay debt of $200.00 (?) to the Hollywood Local incurred when the coast Business Agent was asked here last year to give organizational advise.

To waive dues for the Treasurer, Financial Secretary and Dues Collector at Famous in recognition of time spent in performance of their offices.

To void office and hold new elections for same if Executive Board member misses two consecutive meetings without a ligitimate excuse.

To comply with request of New York District Council #9 urging full participation by the AF of L in the Allied Labor Conference to be convened in London.

To recommend for members: Hemia Beck, Alice Bojekian, Joe Deneroff Lila Kreger, Beulah Kirschner, Ethel Manas, Howard Post, Irving Sivota, Otto Messmer, Shirley Miller, Jean Ortelli, Jeff Price, Eleanor Seidman, Bill Turner and Doris Berghmann.

That Orestes Calpini, chairman, Rosalie Socolov and Morey Reden with Joe Deneroff as alternate, be elected as our representatives from the Famous Unit to the Labor Management Committee in that plant.

That the Local pay the train fare of the four members of the Executive Board from Terry so we can hold all meetings in New York.

That a "Work Permit" system be established as is in existance on the west coast. Before applying for membership all non-members will have to remain for six months as "Work Permit" workers paying .50 per week and not initiation fees. After that period they will follow the regular procedure in applying for membership to the Union.

(Among other business transacted by the Board....)

The B.A. was ordered to be paid $7.74 for expenses incurred during January and February.

Jim Whipp was given a Withdrawal Card previous to the payment of his back dues.

$15.00 was voted for the "bonding" of the Threasurer and Financial Secretary.

$17.50 was to be paid for the mimeographing of the Local's by-laws.

Local 852 (Hollywood) would be asked to give permission for the use of their "union bug" to be used on our pictures. (An example of a "bug" can be found on your membership card.

The financial report for the month of March was read and approved. The income was $443.75, and expenditures $436.23.

W.L.B.EXAMINER GIVES OPINION.

At the War Labor Board hearing held on March 17, 1944, all of the points in the contract submitted to Terrytoons, except those discussed below were agreed upon. The issues below were argued before a Hearing Officer on that date.

We received a report from the board on March 31 informing us of the recommendations the Hearing Officer had made to the Regional War Labor Board. These recommendations are as follow:

1) Union Security.
   a) Union demand for a union shop denied.
   b) Maintenance of membership clause granted.

2) Daily Overtime.
   a) Time and one half over eight hours granted.

3) Sick Leave. Denied.

4) Vacations
   a) Granted one week after ONE YEAR'S service, two weeks after FIVE year's service.

5) Grievance Procedure
   a) Restricted to questions arising out of the contract.

6) Military Service.
   a) Union's demand that volunteers be guaranteed their jobs denied.

7) Discharge.
   a) Subject to grievance procedure after 60 days of employment.

8) Wages.
   a) 15% increase granted. 11.75 cts. per hour, $4.70 per week.
   b) Increases up to the West Coast minimums - denied.
   c) establishment of job classifications - denied.

9) Retroactivity.
   a) Union demand that increases be retroactive to October 15 - denied.
   b) all increases retroactive to February 1, 1944.

It should be noted that these are merely the recommendations of the Hearing Officer to the Regional War Labor Board. We must now await the decision of the Regional Board which is usually final. We have the right to appeal from the Hearing Officer's report to the Regional Board and tehn, if we disagree with the Regional Board's decision, we can appeal to the National War Labor Board in Washington D. C.

The Executive Board has instructed our attorney to carry on such appeals.

FLIPPINGS.

(Ed. Note. We've been informed that "Kessler -the Ernie Pyle of the Animation racket- a newspaper man's newspaperman" is now"looking thru the knothole at Terrytoons." Below you will find some of his unexpurgated items. TOP CEL dusts off its welcome mat.)

Vinciguerra's new little animator is cutting his first tooth - and boy! what footage Carlo puts in - in the small hours of the night.... Don Figlozzi's face swollen. That big and infected gum had him on his back for a week. Don is O.K. now. ..... A whole flock of pin-up girls from Sparky's "Colorama" have thrown away their opaque brushes and pens and are now inbetweening. Among them are Gloria Feriola, Dolly Knickerbocker, Irene Rowland, Helen Bromback and Marilyn Cole. Welcome to the chain gang, girls ..... Pete de Angelo flips again at Famous..... Al Geiss from the coast at Terry's....Herb Sorrell, the cartoonist's Hero from the Coast, sensation-ed the Signal Corps-ers by his visit. The ex-Disney boys were happy to see him again after three years....

GIVING DUE(S) NOTICE

Local 1461, in its contract with the management of Famous Studios, has an agreement requiring the management to keep in its employ only members in good standing.

Our By-Laws determine that a member is in good standing only if his dues, initiation fee and any monies owed are paid. Payments are to be made ONE MONTH IN ADVANCE.

Therefore, notice is made that members will be given until the 25th. of April to clear their records. The Executive Board hopes that it will be unnecessary to discuss this matter with Mr. Buckwald.

CORRECTION,PLEASE! Morey Reden is the Union Trustee and Joe Deneroff, the Union Warden.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Can Your Employer Increase Your Salary? (by our Attorney)

I have been requested by your officers to discuss the accuracy of the statements made by certain employers to the effect that they can not grant you increases in salary, specially if a case is pending before the W.L.B. Such statement is misleading half-truth.

It is true that the employer can not obtain WLB approval of an increase without the Union's consent. But that obstacle is overcome by the simple procedure of having the Union join the employer in requesting approval of the increase. The WLB will consider the increase if the Union joins in the request for approval.

When your employer tells you that he is anxious to increase your salary but cannot do so because of the Union, advise him that the Union will gladly consent to an increase and will join in applying to the WLB for its approval. If your employer is sincere in his desire to grant you more money, he will follow your suggestion that he contact the Union. If he does not do so, you will know that he is using this device to foment disunity in your organization.

I will not at this time discuss all the possible grounds upon which an increase may be granted. But because of a specific abuse now prevalent in one of the Studios I would like to advise you that when you are promoted to a higher paying type of work, you are entitled to an increase in salary up to the rate being paid for that type of work. I would suggest that you keep a record of the time you spend at the higher paying type of work so that we can insist that you be compensate for it retroactively.

If you have problems of this nature, please do not accept the advice that may be rumored about the plant but bring it immediately to your Business Agent or to me at your next meeting.

MORE FLIPPINGS: Proxy McKee at the Signal Corp....Woody Gelman too busy these days.... .. Theron Collier has been looking wistfully at his cob-webbed skis.... Renza marooned in Peekskill for 2 days.

KNOW OUR UNION.

With the signing of the contract between our Local and Famous, L. 1461 got a full set of uppers and lowers and is now on its way to maturity. It is now up to our union to prove that it can bring about harmony and advantages to both labor and management; that it understands a contract is not one sided and that every privilege has a responsibility and should be accepted in that manner. Because of this, it is vital that every member be as well acquainted with the clauses in the contract as they are with the social life of Popeye and Oyle. For this purpose the Executive Board has decided to give the members a detailed resume of our contract.

Our strength should grow through a leadership built on the integrity of each worker - who should recognize that for a fair salary there should be a fair day's work, that sick leave doesn't cover boredom (any such abuse or others of like type should not be condoned); and who for a more complete understanding of unions in general, should acquaint himself with the history of the labor movement and the use of the union as a giant vote, influencing legislation. (i.e. should a proposed legislation affect your cost of living unfavorably, the Union can become a vocal portion of "public opinion".)

We've sworn loyalty to our Union and any violation of the contract will be subject to disciplinary action. For instance, Article XIV, Sec. 4 provides that any member convicted of working for wages below the Union scale shall be fined a sum of not less than $50.00. Should we know of anyone being asked to do more than one type of work and being payed for the lower classification, said information should be presented by us to any Union official or the B.A. If we have grievances against management, our contract supplies us with a machinery to iron out the differences in an orderly fashion.

OUR IMMEDIATE PROBLEM IS TO GET UP TO DATE SO FAR AS OUR DUES ARE CONCERNED AND ELIMINATE THE NECESSITY FOR REQUIRING THE CO. TO LIVE UP TO ITS AGREEMENT OF EMPLOYING ONLY MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING.

TOP CEL
Vol. 1 No. 7
New York, April 14, 1944

Editor: S. Knoring; Ass't Editors:
L. Riley, E. Levitan, S. Kessler.
SCREEN CARTOONISTS, LOCAL 1461.

Pepe Ruiz, B.A., 800 Riverside Dr. NYC. Wadsworth 3-2821
Marvin Cristenfeld, Att'y, 30 Broad St. Hanover 2-8667
General Membership Meetings: Second Tuesday of each month.
Executive Board meetings: First and third Mondays of each month.

UNION COMMENTS

On the War Labor Board's opinion published in Top Cel last week.

The Union objects to the report of the Hearing Officer with regard to wages, grievance procedure, vacations, union security, sick leave, military service and farming out work. The Union has based its requests on what it understood to be a sound and fundamental principle of WLB policy, the stabilization of working conditions throughout an industry. This principle was completely ignored.

The Union is puzzled by the paragraph on page 8 reading:

> 'that the foregoing increases be made without prejudice to right of the Union to apply for further wage increases should the WLB establish appropiate job classification and sound tested going rates!'

It is the understanding of the Union that the present policies of the WLB allows to receive increases up to the minima of the sound and tested going rates in the industry and that it requires the setting up of job descriptions and rate ranges so some logic can be introduced into chaotic wage structures. No provision at all is made for a study of the industry.

Under the Hearing Officer's report the employer can still hire people for Fifteen Dollars per week, still pay five different employees five different rates for the same job under the same conditions and still continue to demoralize his employees by manipulating jobs and rates because no formal system exist at the plant.

Sound and Tested Going Rates. In determining the going rates, the Board will require to define the labor market area. There is no doubt that the industry does not restrict its hiring to local talent. That the flow of labor is fluid is manifest from the list of names submitted to the WLB.

Grievance Procedure. To limit the scope of this procedure is to run counter to the express public statement of Chairman Davis urging upon all employers and unions the practice of making provisions for the arbitrations of grievances not otherwise disposed.

A procedure of unlimited scope is particular necessary in this case where the employer's antipathy to the union has been so manifest that the NLRB saw fit to order the employer to reinstate with full back pay two employees. When an employer of this type is involved it is inevitable that disputes and grievances will arise.

Vacation. The Union is requesting the standard vacation clause in the industry. The intense concentration required, the high degree of painstaking care that must be observed, and the continual heavy strain on the eyes all combine to make a two week vacation after one year essential.

Union Security. Although the Union recognizes the WLB policy, it feels that this is an unusual case wherein every other plant in the industry is afforded greater protection through a union shop clause.

Sick Leave. There is no reason why the employees at this plant should not receive the same consideration, especially where the employer, throughout negotiations, conceded that they were entitled to it.

Military Service. The Union has requested that a clause be included guaranteeing reemployment to draftees and volunteers equally under certain conditions after their discharge. It is difficult for the union to understand how anyone can argue against this clause or how any government agency can deny its inclusion. The equities of the case are too obvious to discuss. To refuse to agree to outlaw discrimination between draftees and volunteers is betrayal of the men who are dying so that we may live. To legally direct such discrimination is worse.

Farming Out Work. That the practice is frowned upon is manifest from the fact that every other plant outlaws it by contract.

Those were our Comments on the Hearing Officer's recommendations to the Regional Board. We must now await the decision of the Regional Board which is usually final. If we disagree with the Regional Board's decision, we can appeal to The National War Labor Board in Washington, D. C.

LAST MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT N. R.

Accepted the Executive Board's recommendations to pay our debt to the West Coast Local; to waive dues for the Treasurer, Financial Secretary and Dues Collector at Famous; to void office if Board member misses two consecutive meetings; complied with request of N.Y. District Council urging full participation by the AFofL in the Allied Labor Conference; elected Calpini, Socolov and Reuen as our representatives from Famous Unit to the Labor-Management Committee; to pay the train fare of the four Board's members from Terry; established the Work Permit system by which non members will remain so for six months period, paying .50 cts per week.

A Program Committee with Dave Tendler, chairman, Joe Doneroff, Lee Donahue, Iris Tomber, and Edna May Regal was created to organize social or educational affairs. We would like to hear your suggestions.

Likewise, the Labor-Management Committee, (Calpini-Reuen-Socolov) would like to know your ideas about improving working conditions or the relationship with the company.

WHAT MR. TERRY THINKS OF OUR UNION

These are the Comments on the Hearing Officer's report and on our Comments published above:

"Terrytoons, Inc. objects strenuously to the report which provides that increases granted in it may be further enlarged 'should the WLB establish job 'classifications and sound tested going rates' unless the employer is given a right to be heard.

The entire attitude of the Union has been unsound and would, in the light of the failure to give any proof of an accurate character to the Hearing Officer, seem to be utterly false and indeed falsified." (Fighting words Mc Gee!)

"At the time of the hearing claims similar to those contained in the Union's objections were made. It was understood at that time that proof of the Union's contentions would be submitted and documented. The Attorney for the Union seeks to assume facts which he not only has not proven but his very past performances cannot prove."

(Prove what?.. that the industry is nation wide... that Terry is the only studio paying $15.00.. that everyone in the industry has two weeks vacation, sick leave, etc.? What better proof that the contracts with the rest of the industry?)

"The foregoing comments take care of the entire situation with the possible exception of "Grievance Procedure". The argument of the Union is irrevelant. The Employer is agreeable to having a contract covering all possible matters which may become issues. It is not required to have every dispute of any kind whatsoever submitted to an outside person. The theory of the Union..." (and the theory of the rest of the Unions in the country, Mr. Wm. Davis, Chairman of the W.L.B. and the U.S. Government..) "is to place an outsider in the position of running the affairs of the Employer in so far as its relations with the employees are concerned. Let the Union determine what matters should be subject to arbitration and <u>if</u>...." (good, dear old 'if') "<u>at all within reason</u>, Terrytoons Inc. will agree to have those matters incorporated in the contract.

The Employer wishes to make the following statement:

1) The Union and its representatives have deliberately misrepresented the facts to the Board."
(In other words, we are all liers)

"2) The Union has failed utterly to present any of the fact which it claims to support its position on the various matters in issue.(!)

3) For some unknown reason to the Employers, the Union has deliberately and possibly maliciously engaged in a campaing of avoiding the execution of the contract."
(One laugh'.)

"4) The Employer has always been agreeable to arriving at terms for and executing a contract. The Union has used every device to avoid an amicable conclusion." (Two laughs! Let's quickly destroy the records before the N.Y. Mediation Board where the company twice repudiated its agreement with the Union.)

"5) The very character of the

Union's presentations, requires that we be given an opportunity, in the event the Board decides to consider this matter at all, -which we very seriously doubt it will- of being heard orally so that the Union may be put to the proof of its fantastic claims which it has not present.

The Employer respectfully requests:

> That the rates fixed in the Hearing Officer's decision be permanent for the duration of the contract, if and when the Union is willing to sit down and agree to one."

(The rates suggested: if making less than $15.30 you go up to $20.00; if making more, everyone gets $4.70 regarless what bracket you are in!)

> "The Employer feels that the WLB at this time, and as he has always requested, direct that a contract be executed. In the alternative, if the report is accepted, the Employer emphatically request, that it be given an opportunity to be heard on the fantastic claim of the Union with respect to the matter of comparable wages and on the matter of establising appropiate job classifications and sound tested going rates in so far as they affect this employer."

We fail to see in these hysterical Comments any proof that the guys don't travel from one coast to the other, or that anyone in this industry is making $15.00 for inbetweening, or that in the rest of the six studios the animators make less than $90.00 & $70.00. Is there any plant where after one year one does not get two weeks vacations? Is any studio discriminating against the soldiers?. All the dramatics of the attorney for the Employer with his not too clever use of adjetives (false, unsound, falsified, malicious) have not contested a single of the Union's points.

One member at the meeting commented that the only truth in the little paper is the fact that we "deliberately and maliciously" are avoiding to sing HIS contract not ours. Our position today is the same one it was six months ago. We feel we are entitled to the same conditions at Terry's as exist in the rest of the industry.

FAMOUS PAID UP ON ITS DUES

Our report from Famous Studios is that the members in that plant are taking seriously our rules and obligations with the company and the effort to be paid up to April including the balance of their initiation fees, by the 25th. of this month, the date line given by the Executive Board before we ask Mr. Buckweld to enforce our agreement.

As we all know, our by-laws determine that a member is in good standing only if his dues are paid up ONE MONTH IN ADVANCE; and that our contract with Famous requires management to keep in its employ only members in good standing.

There were some that felt that until the WLB approves the contract agreed upon, our obligations should not start. Of course the position was wrong, because we are now operating under the contract with all its rights and responsabilities, in spite of the fact that we are not collecting the increases as yet.

FOR POLITICAL ACTION
(from The Animator)

A Union must show whether it is vital and alive, capable of asjusting to, meeting, and beating new conditions and antagonists. Our strenghth is in union, but if that strength is not used against the real menace, there is no strength.

Conditions have changed, agreements between employer and union no longer control the standard of living... Government agencies now tell you not only how much you shall get, but decide how much that wage will buy.

The real menace is the sick, the halt and the blind politicians who have so muddled the workings of these government agencies that it has been impossible to create a stable national wartime economy.

That such stability is necessary to the war effort is obvious, and it must also be apparent that if it is not achieved the problems of the post war adjustment will be greatly aggravated..

The only weapon left us is political action, action that will get out of office the dunderheads who freeze wages and not prices, who put in half ceilings, whose anti-labor legislation threatens the whole labor movement.

FLIPPINGS

New members at Famous: Muriel Batherman, Jack Mendelsohn, Tillie Lippman & Marilyn Liebling..... Dick Marion from the Coast now at the Signal Corp... Sgt Jack Zander on furlough.... Woody Gelman out

A SOLDIER WRITES HIS WIFE .....

"..... I am sorry about the W.L.B. decision. It surely is a set back that is unexpected, but perhaps you will gain something by an appeal.

I would not oppose a strike if every other avenue has been tried, but until them, it is probably not a good idea. I am not close to the case, but if you have any confidence in your union, play alone with them and do not desert them the first time they seem to have let you down. They haven't, in all probability, and will keep on fighting for you, surely they'll do more than you could accomplish alon e.

Not only I am unopposed to war time strikes, but I think that's the time for them. When you have management by the neck, squeeze it, because when they have you there, they most assuredle strangle you.

If I were faced with death on a battlefield I would infinitely prefer to die for something I believe in, die for inadequate equipment caused by strikes that would give labor at home strength, than to die so that Paul Terry could make other million, Ford another billion.

The papers are full of how labor is not doing its utmost for the war effort, but not a word about management's even more numerous iniquities. It may seem difficult for you to endorse your own union and pay dues now when apparently nothing is to be gained for it, but actually this is very short-sighted viewpoint. <u>The unions are on your side</u>, don't forget it. Management is on the other. It is as simple as that.

People will say I'm painting a picture in black and white, but it is necessary to do this. They are doing it themselves. Are not there liberals in Germany & Japan? Do not our enemies have culture and refinement? Of course they do, but to recognized that in the middle of the war we are fighting against them would be suicide. We have recognized the nazis and Japonese as our bitter enemies, enemies that must be annihilate without consideration for the 'good Germans' or "bad Germans'.

In the class war, we must also recognized our enemies, mark them as such, and know how to deal with them. The end of this war will see the beginning of another just as sinister, and your enemy will not be the Russians nor the English, but Americans - Americans fascists and reactionaries, the Dies block, the Hoffmans, Cox's, Smiths, Peglers, etc. Your side include the Will Rogers Jr., the Peppers, the Roosevelts and the Unions, so stick with them....."

T O P C E L

Vol. 1 #8 New York Apr. 21 1944

Screen Cartoonists, Local 1461.

Pepe Ruiz, 800 Riverside Dr. N.Y.
WAdsworthd 3-2821
Marvin Cristenfeld, 30 Broad St.
HAnover 2-8667

General Memberships Meetings:
Second Tuesday of each month
Executive Board meetings: First
and Third Mondays of each month

WEST COAST ADOPTS NEW CONTRACT

On March 29, the cartoonists of Hollywood, approved their proposed demands to be presented to the Animated Films Producers Assn. which covers, Metro, Geo. Pal, Screen Gems, Leon Schlesingers, Walt Disney, Walter Lantz, and Wolf Studios.

Says 'Daily Variety': "Demand for 20% of the boxoffice gross from all second run pictures or re-issues, as well as television releases is included in the new contract. Union plans to distribute coin to Guild members in the armed service.

Calls for a check off system through the industry for the collection of dues.

Union wants military termination allowance equal to six week's pay at the rate received by the employee at the time of his induction; severance pay of two weeks after one year's employment, and an additional week's pay for each additional year of employment; ban on solicitation of funds by the Producer or any outside organization; screen credit; grievance and arbitration machinery; accumulative seniority rights; equal distribution of over time; time and half for work in excess of 40 hours between Monday and Friday.

Union is not asking for a percentage increase in wages, but seeks to adjust salaries on an individual basis, based on training ability and background, with automatic raises yearly for a period of five years.

Feeling that a man who has been at a job for three or four years is more valuable and more efficient than a man who has just entered the classification, it puts a premium on experience, and it will eliminate a source of friction and dissatisfaction which no previous contract removed, the fact that the tyro and the old hand have the same minimum, and, therefore, very often, the same salary.

A bonus incentive plan also is included. These cover a maximum of eight pictures yearly, of a maximun length of 600 feet, the minumum unit to be composed of a director, story man, layout man, one background man, five animators, five assistants, five inbetweeners, one utility man and one general man, the later to be eliminated if two story men are used. Bonus would be paid for any work turned out in addition to the eight picture maximum.

The Guild also requests, that negotiations be conducted between 7 and 10 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, so that the entire membership can sit in and listen to the discussion. Wage scale proposals range downwards

From		
	Story men	145.00
	Animators	125.00
	Assistants	106.25
	(with one year experience)	
	Inkers	43.75
	Painters	37.50
	Shadows, Cutout	43.70

As soon as we receive a more complete breakdown of the salaries, 'Top Cel' will publish it.

ITEMI

Geo Pal's "puppettons" got an 8 page spread in the April edition of "Coronet".

FLIPPINGS

Debbie Shaw photographic pencil tests.... some fun....Abner Kneitel in Jacksonville, Fla.,.... boot camp.... Judy Weiner back at Famous... mumps all gone.. Howard Post out with the measle... Who said childhood diseases?... Irene Zelikson, Louba Medaiski, Jacquelin Arias are Charter Members of the opaque Latin Quarters.....

May, June, July, August SEPTEMBER

Here's your chance to help <u>your</u> soldier get his vote.

New York's voting system is clumsy and our soldiers forfeit their votes if their signed application are not back here BEFORE SEPTEMBER 9.

The C.I.O. of Greater New York started a drive last Tuesday to see that every serviceman gets his war ballot applications in early and correctly.
We have printed application forms

complete with necessary instructions. These application forms are to be filled out by the soldier and mail by him to the War Ballot Commission BEFORE the early part of September.

Unless we do something NOW, many New York service men who are unfamiliar with the elaborate voting rigamarole now set up, will be unable to vote.

Ask your Steward or Business Agent for a soldier ballot application or for further information today.

FLIPPINGS.. Strictly from Terry's

Saul Kessler, ace reporter from Terry comes thru again. Quote:

"Looking thru the knothole at Terrtoons" Unquote. ....Ralph Pearson weeping in his beer Eastern weekend. The mud on the links reminded him of Cassino... Marty Taras was seen in a huff... looks swell in his new Spring huff.... Ye Ed, crippled by over heated sacro-iliac (look it up, honey) out 2 days.... walking like a 3 day bike rider.... Milt Stein (former inb. at Terrys) now a successful lance comic book artist with his own studio atop a Lex. Ave. sky scraper.... I. Klein, the Mike Angelo of Terrys, painted a portrait of ye Ed... decade ago... threatens homicide if we show it to anyone... (sotto voce) it's a good likeness! .... Dot Loth seen edging out of dinner sideways... Peg Breese does her homework (overtime) with a breeze doll on each knee.... Mike Prendergast disappears when Mary Zaffo puts fuzzy white mittens around him... an act for the Palace.

UNION ANSWERS BACK

On March 31 the Local received the recommendation of the Hearing Officer in our controversy with Terrytoons, Inc. We made our Comments to same as we didn't agree with them. The Employer made Comments also to our position. This is our reply to the Employer's Comments:

"While there are no facts or arguments in the Employer's Comments worthy of a reply, the Union feels it necessary to answer clearly and unequivocally the typically vicious attacks on the intengrity and honesty of the Union set forth in the panic-sticken brief that the Employer has foisted upon this Board. The Employer's brief infamously typifies the vicious anti-union attitude the Employer has always manifested. It is in keeping with his longstanding active antipathy for the Union that led in December, 1943, to his conviction by the National Labor Relations Board for unfair labor practices in a decision directing him to reinstate with full back pay the President and Vice-President of the Union to the jobs from which they had been discharged for union activities and to cease and desist from any further unfair labor practices.

"The Trial Examiner in his report stated that "the record clearly shows that Terry does not want any union in the --- plant" (Terrytoons, Inc. and Screen Cartoonists Local 1461, NLRB, Case No. 2-C-5108, page 11 of Intermediate Report.)

This scorn for the Union is manifest in the arbitrary manner in which he brushes aside the Union's attempt to engage in sincere debate, with unsubstantiated charges of bad faith dishonesty and refusal to bargain. The Board should note that there is no attempt made to argue the merits of the issues, but only to discredit the Union by emotional appeals.

"The Union respectfully submits its Reply to the five points listed on page 2 of the Employer's Comments:

"1) The Employer charges that the Union deliberately misrepresented the facts to the Board without specifying what facts he refers to, how they were misrepresented or what the true facts are. There is obviously no substance to the charge or the Employer would have made these points clear to the Board. But, as usual, the Employer wastes everyones time by blithely scattering vaporous, unsubstantiated charges to the four winds, hoping desperately that they will be blown into somedoby's eyes and obscure the facts.

"It ill becomes the Employer to charge anyone with misrepresentation when his testimony, under oath, during an N.L.R.B. hearing was commented upon by the Trial Examiner in his Report (cited above) as follows:

> "In view of Terry's clear an-
> "tipathy toward the Union and
> "its two chief leaders the
> "undersigned is unable to accept
> "as credible the reasons for the
> "discharges advanced by him at
> "the hearing. (page 11)
>
> "The latter (Mr. McKee, President
> "of the Union)was a credible
> "witness, Terry was not. (page
> "6)."

"2) The Employer charges that the Union failed to submit proof that it agreed to submit without indi-

indicating what proof he refers to or to whom, when, or where the Union agreed. As usual, there is only a general charge, without details, without facts, without substantiation. An examination of the Hearing Officer's Report and of the record in the case will clearly indicate that the Union did submit proof and exhibits at the Hearing, copies of which were there and then given to the Employer. The Hearing Officer did suggest that the Union submit to him a copy of the daily overtime clause that is standard in the industry. This the Union did, serving a copy on the representative of the Employer.

"In this discussion of failure to follow agreements and directions it is interesting to note that the Union still has not received a copy of the Employer's study of rates being paid in January, 1941, upon which the cost of living increase was recommended. At the Hearing the Hearing Officer expressly directed the Employer to submit such a study to the Board and to serve a copy on the Union. The Union is, of course, unable to question the Report on that point until it receives such information.

"3 & 4) The Employer charges that the Union has refused to execute an agreement and claims that the Employer has always been agreeable to signing one. There is no need for argument on these points. The Facts speak plainly for themselves.

"a) The Employer twice reneged on agreements made with the Union before Mr. Lanou of the New York State Mediation Board. The most flagrant example of this occured at a conference before Mr. Lanou when the Employer (Mr. Terry, Mr. Weiss, and Mr. Kerwin being present) and the Union came to agreement on every point in the contract but wages and two or three others and planned to meet a few days later to sign a contract on the agreed clauses, submitting the remainder to the Board. Needless to say, when the parties met the Employer broke his word and again refused to agree to any clause in the contract.

"b) It should be noted that the Union was certified as the collective bargaining agent at Terrytoons in May, 1943, and still has been unable to obtain an agreement from the Employer, whereas it was certified much later at Famous Studios and in a short time executed an agreement under which it is now operating at that Studio.

"From the character of the Employer and the facts stated above it is clear upon whom the censure must fall for the failure of the parties to reach an agreement.

"5) In reply to the Employers frantic demands for another hearing the Union can only state that it is ready, willing and anxious to sincerely debate any and all issues the Board may choose to hear at any time and place the Board may choose to name.

"In arguing for a restricted grievance procedure the Employer once again unwittingly unmasks his true self when he protests against an "outsider" assisting in the solution of labor relations problems in the plant. From the very inception of the Union the Employer has objected to "outsiders helping to stabilize labor relations in his plant. Throughout negotiations he complained bitterly and continuously against the "Outsiders (the Union's Business Agent and Attorney) who were assisting in the bargaining despite the commonly known fact that his employees under the National Labor Relations Act are guaranteed the privelege of bargaining through representatives of their own choosing. Now the Employer objects to the most amicable and universally recognized method of settling troublesome disputes, through and "outsider", an arbitrator.

"From the type of Employer involved and the above facts it is evident that an unrestricted grievance procedure must be directed to guarantee the Union ample protection now that the right to strike is being given up."

"April 15, 1944.-"

All the Comments go to the Regional Board with the Hearing Officer's report and recommendations for their consideration. If we disagree with their decision we still can appeal to the National War Labor Board in Washington.

ON THE SOLDIER'S LETTER

Last week, for lack of space, we were unable to make any comments on the Soldier's letter to his wife.

We wanted to say that the letter was an authentic one, and that, for obvious reasons we had to omit even saying where the receiver works. Using quotation marks, we felt we didn't have authority to make any change in what <u>he felt.</u> He expressed his own opinion, that especially in certain matters, are not neccesaryly the opinion of this Local.

Vol. 1- #9

T O P C E L

New York May 12, 1944.

Screen Cartoonists, Local 1461

Editor: S. Knoring; Assts. L. Riley, E. Levitan, S. Kessler.
Pepe Ruiz, 800 Riverside Dr. N.Y. WAdsworth 3-2821
Marvin Cristenfeld, 30 Broad St. HAnover 2-8667
General Membership Meetings: Second Tuesday of each month.
Executive Board meetings: First and Thirda Mondays of each month

SURPRISE ATTEMPT TO SPLIT UP UNION FAILS

As reported at our last General Membership Meeting, the Regional War Labor Board rejected our demands in the Terrytoon case and sustained almost all of the recommendations made by the Hearing Officer in his report.

The members of the Terrytoon Unit were very upset about the decision and under the leadership of the entire group of animators, new attempts were made to settle the distateful situation that has been prevailing at the plant.

In their sincere desire to reach an understanding, they went so far as to break the basic union principle of dealing with employers through chosen representatives and offered to meet with the employer without "outsiders". No one was happy about doing that because we all recognize the importance of the principle, but the step did prove how far the people were willing to go to reach an agreement. The meeting was set for Tuesday evening, May 9.

At the last minute, however, someone, not the union, throught of a better plan. Why not split up the Union once and for all? Why not drive a wedge between the employees and their chosen leaders by showing up the Business Agent and Lawyer in front of all the members?

The attempt was made. Your Business Agent and Lawyer were portrayed as the evil ones disliked by the employer and causing all the trouble. The employer had no grudge against the workers. He loves them all. Sweetness and honey were thickly spread on our members, but only sarcasm and vindictiveness on our B.A. and Lawyer.

But it didn't work!

Our members put up with the ham acting insults to our intelligence for only a short time and then, with clarity, firmness and directness the 19 employees who were present expressed their opinions. In our democratic organization they had known of every step along the way and had made every decision. They were not to be fooled now. They stated strongly that they were there to conclude a contract and not to waste time with innuendos and fancy legal language. They were definitely 100% behind every word our lawyer said. They came to talk turkey and wanted simply to know what the employer had to offer.

Finally Mr. Weiss took over and for once we felt we could talk to someone who spoke our language. It was a relief to find someone we could work with and reason with. A tentative agreement was worked out to be taken to Mr. Terry for approval. When the Union receives their offer, a General Membership meeting will be called to discuss the proposal. (Representing the Company were Bill Weiss and Mr. Kerwin.)

The group present at the meeting, specially the animators, deserves warm congratulations for their splendid show of strength and unity of action. The group showed that it pays to be informed of what goes on. The meeting demonstrated what can be accomplished if we work all together, In the words of the Business Agent: "The Industry never had, not even in the west coast, a better Negotiation Committee that those 19 people that represented you at the Terry negotiations on the night of May 9th."

GO WEST, YOUNG MAN.

The animators at Terry, Famous & Loucks and Norling were very much interested in an ad published in the "Times" from the Amalfi Agency soliciting animators.

After the first stampede and in spite of some rugged individuals, the Union handled the requests of about 16 men interested in finding out what was all about. Walter Lantz, the studio needing the men, will contact our Business Agent and outside of the salaries, the rest of the conditions shall be negotiated by the Local.

DUES AT FAMOUS

On April 28 the Studio and the Local published the following notice in their bulletin board:

"Please take notice that Paragraph 'Third' of the contract entered into between the Union and the Employer on March 13, 1943, provides that: MEMBERSHIP IN GOOD STANDING IN THE UNION SHALL BE CONDITION OF CONTINUED EMPLOYMENT. In the event that any member of the Union shall not be in good standing, including payment of dues, at any time after May 18th. 1944, such employee will automatically be suspended from employment until he or she ragains good standing in the Union."

As determined in our By-laws, by May 18 MAY DUES SHOULD BE PAID, as on that day the Union will send a list to Mr. Buckweld with the names of those in arrears. And 15 days later, on June 1st., another list will go to him with the names of those who have not paid their June dues.

However, it is encouranging to notice that at this writing, most of the May dues have been paid, so it is expected that Famous studios will not have to receive any letter from us.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR APRIL

Income	$ 746.60
Disbursements:	
Debt to Local 852	260.00
Per capita tax	80.40
Pepe Ruiz, salary	125.70
Withholding Tax & S.S.	91.10
Bonding of Officers	15.00
Mimeographing 'Top Cel'	33.23
Printing of check book	1.75
Office supplies	12.32
Meeting Halss	10.00
Phone, B.A. Expenses	34.47
Train fare for Ex. Board	4.00
Refund of dues	7.25
	675.22

FLIPPINGS

Stan Green, now in England, wants 'Top Cel' sent him... it will be a pleasure.... Incidentely, the Local's office still wants the addresses of our members overseas to send them the paper.... At Famous, Rosalie Socolov now a member of Timing Dept.... Vera Skalet now full fledge inbetweener .... that rates her 2/3ds... Sgt. George Baker back in New York from Anzio.... Lt. Streech unable to see Walt on his trip to the coast.. Better luck next time.... Elinore Seidman taking a leave of obsence to join her husban.... lucky Elionore .....Tom Inada about to leave for the Army.... Marea Bishop with her husband in North Caroline last week end.... Sarah Whitmore, from M.G.M. in town marrying her daughter... Lt. Al Williams awarded the Air Medal with two oak leave. clusters for valiant action over the Gilbert and Marshalls.... Zeke de Grasse stationed at Quoddy Village, Maine ....Jack Mendelsohn will soon have a male companion in opaque, Dave Levine.... Now at Famous, Shirley Harris, Marilyn Eggert... new at Terrys, Mario Trombetta, Bernard Wexler....

TRADE NEWS

Production of Snafu cartoons for the Army and technical films for the Navy will cause Leon Schlesinger to hold "Merrie Melodies" and "Looney Tunes" to 13 each next season as against the usual 39.... All will be in Technicolor.... Walter Lantz, also making Navy subjects, will produce 13 Technicolor Cartunes for Universal 1944-45 distribution.

Construction will start in about three weeks on a new building next to Lant's present studio. The plant is expanding into a new edifice, where they will produce nothing but subjects for the Navy. Postwar plans call for them to use the new studio for straight commercial films.

Don't miss "The Negro Soldier", Army Signal Corp documentary featurette produced under supervision of Frank Capra.

Alsoat the Museum of Modern Art, on May 29 & 30, it will be shown "A Short History of Animation", the cartoon from 1879 to 1933.

Louis B. Mayer, again, as for the last ten years, becomes the highest paid executive in the country, this time $1,138.992.00 Previous year he only made $949.765.84.

WEST COAST PROPOSED CONTRACT

The figures published in our latest edition were not correct and it caused certain comments, especially since the assistants at Famous, according to rumors, are making more money, with the Bonuses, than the animators.

Now, with a copy of the proposed contract in front of us, we can give the correct data.

The conditions are the same reported before, 20% of the box office gross from all second run pictures or re-issues; a check system through the industry for the collections of dues; military termination allowance equal to six week's pay; severance pay of two weeks after one year employment, and an additional week's pay for each additional year of employment.

Ban of solicitation of funds; screen credit; grievance and arbritation machinery; accumulative seniority rights; equal distrubution of over time; time and one half for work in excess of 8 hours; a bonus for the unit that produces more than eight pictures a year; vacations with pay; sick leave consisting of one day for each month of employment; maternity leave.

For service men returning to their jobs, the man who replaced him shall be entitled to take the next lower classified job and all the way down the line; Labor Management Committee. It is proposed as one year contract.

Salaries (per week)

Story men	$ 125.00
Asstss. (Sketch, gags)	106.25
Sketchman	95.00
(For 2 months tryouts)	75.00
Story research	50.00

Maximun for one storyman, six cartoons per year. For two story men, six to twelve cartoons. Minimum purchase price for regular cartoon, eight times weekly salary of storyman.

Layout	118.75
Layout, Technical films	112.50
Assistant	87.50

Background man	100.00
Apprencite, 1st. 3 mos.	75.00
2nd. 3 "	80.00
3rd. 3 "	85.00
4th. 3 "	90.00
Background tracer	43.75
Air Brush (Training, Commercials & Educationals	87.50
Title Artist	95.00

Animators (Character and Effects	125.00
Apprentice, one year	106.25
Assistants	75.00
Breakdown	56.25
Inbetweeners	43.75
Apprentice 1st. 2 mos.	35.00
2nd. 2 "	37.50
3rd. 2 "	40.00

The number of Asst. employed shall be at least equal to the total number of Animators & Apprentice Animators employed.

Scene Technician	87.50
Animation Checker	68.75
Apprencite 1st. 3 mos.	47.50
2nd. 3 "	52.50
3rd. 3 "	57.50
4th. 3 "	62.50

Inkers	43.75
Apprentices 1st. 2 mos.	35.00
2nd. 2 "	37.50
3rd. 2 "	40.00

Painters	37.50
Apprencite, 3 months	32.50
Shawdow, Cut-outs	43.75
Apprentice, 1st. 2 mos.	35.00
2nd. 2 "	37.50
3rd. 2 "	40.00
Dry Brush or Air Brush	43.75
Color Model Supervisor	50.00
Color Model	43.75
Set Up (separate animation)	43.75
Set Up (Tracer)	37.50
P & I Asst. Supervisor	56.25
P & I Checkers, Class I, Mechanics or both P & I	50.00
Class II, only P & I	43.75
Apprentice 1st. 3 mos.	37.50
2nd. 3 "	40.00

Paint Lab, Mix & Match	43.75
Apprentice, 1st. 3 mos.	37.50
2nd. 3 "	40.00
Dispensary	31.25
Paint Technician	68.75
Assistant	50.00

Cell Washer & Polisher	37.50

Comic Strip

Class I, Story man or artist doing 1 Sunday AND 6 daily	145.00
Class II, Story man or artist doing 2 Sunday paper or 6 daily per week	75.00
Class III, Writes or draws 1 Sunday paper per week	75.00
Inkers, Class I	75.00
Class II Assistants, simple inking and clean up	65.00

Promition and Publicity

Class I, National Advertising	125.00
Class II, Assistant National Adversising	75.00
Picture set ups	56.25
Assistant, 1st. 3 months	43.75

Experience to be computed as of the

date employee first went to work in the industry. All salary reductions made prior to January 1st., 1941, shall be restored immediately.

They ask for minimum yearly increases from $2.50 to $5.00 per week for next five years for each one of the above classifications.

The negotiation with George Pal have started already and it is agreed that the contract with that particular producer should be retroactive to April 29. However the Producers nixed the request of the Local for open negotiations. They asked that parleys be held at night in a hall large enough for the membership to attend and listen to representatives present their proposals. The Producers Assn. said no, and asked only a small committee to be named.

MORE FLIPPINGS

Tobin and Whitaker of the Navy Unit at Anacostia boosted to first class and Lou Schmidt made a Chief. They are so busy that have a night shift. George Rufle is the newest addition to the Unit and is very happy..... Esther Dayton Pattengill has some genuine government red tape on her desk lamp... anyone can touch it upon application... Jim Carmichael, back from somewhere, but still in the Pacific, getting in use to fresh water showders, eating in plates, etc... He says that "about 75% of the old outfit volunteered to go right back again... A healthy prove of how the guys out here feel"..... Frank H. Spaulding asking for 'Top Cel'... Lucie Harrison asking for a Withdrwal Card.... Helen de Bruyn left Terry's.... Reg. Massie with two paintings at the Brooklyn Museum.....

THE 'BALLOTS FOR FIGHTERS' DRIVE

There are over 8 million Americans of voting age in the armed services. About 1 million of them are from N. Y. State, most of them from New York City.

President Roosevelt proposed a simple plan that would have made it possible for every eligible serviceman, servicewomen and all other persons in war services to vote. The Republicans, combining with a group of reactionary poll-tax southern Democrats, voted down the President's proposal. The Administration then fought for as liberal a Federal Soldier's Vote Bill as possible. It succeeded in getting passed a Law which makes it possible for every soldier to vote through a simple and easily available Federal Ballot IF his own State agreed to use the Federal Ballot.

Governor Dewey has to date refused to accept the Federal Ballot. This means that if a Serviceman or women fails to receive a N.Y. State War Ballot he or she will be disfranchised.

The New York Law requires that every serviceman makes a signed application for a ballot. That the application must reach N.Y. "on or before September 1st." It requires that ballots be mailed to applicants "on or before Sep. 7th." It requires that all filled-out ballots must reach the N. Y. Commision "no later than noon Nov. 3rd."

Make sure that all your friends in the service, whether overseas or in the States, gets one application for a War Ballot. Explain to your friends at home the need of our soldiers using the right to vote. If they must give their lives they should be allowed to vote. Their vote, one way or the other, can decide the 1944 election

Ask your Steward or Business Agent for several "Servicemen's Application For A War Ballot" cards. Attached to it are careful instructions to the servicemen and his relatives and friends.

Only the utmost effort on the part of the people at home will give them their right to vote.

ITEMS

Screen Publicists Guild in Hollywood is having a referendum of the entire membership on acceptance of a charter from the Brotherhood of Painters and Decorators like the one we have. It will require some time since ballots will be sent to 62 members in the service. Others affiliated with the Brotherhood in the West Coast are the Movie Picture Painters and Scene Artists, Screen Office Employees Guild, Screen Set Designers and Screen Cartoonists.

The Treasure Department in its first public accounting of its control over salary increases, had admitted approving raises for almost 100 corporation officials making more than $50,000 per year.

The figures showed that 95 officials have been making $7,070.060.00 before the increases were allowed, or an average of almost $75,000 each. Their raises averaged $11,500, bringing them up to an average of more than $86,000 a year.

T O P C E L

Vol. 1 Number 10 New York May 26, 1944

Screen Cartoonists, Local 1461
11 West 42nd. St. Room 1302 - LOngacre 5-6880

Editor: S. Knoring, Asst. Editprs: L. Riley, E. Levitan, S. Kessler.
Pepe Ruiz, 800 Riverside Dr. N. Y. WAdsworth 3-2821
Marvin Cristenfeld, 30 Broad St. HAnover 2-8667

General Membership Meetings: Second Tuesday of each month
Executive Board Meetings: First and Third Mondays of each month

EXEC. BOARD METTING, MAY 15.

Our attorney gave a detailed resume of the negotiations at Terrytoons. The negotiations were open (i.e. goldfish bowl); the union was strongly united and a company proposal was received on May 13. Since all points were not met a letter was sent to Mr. Weiss by joint action of the animators.

An early decision on the Famous Bonus system has been promised by the War Labor Board.

Since the nomination of candidates for office at our next elections at the Kickerbocker Hotel June 13 took place at a General Membership meeting that conflicted with a Terry meeting regarding their contract, it was felt that Terry was badly represented. The Board recommended that the next General Membership meeting (May 16-New Rochelle) make adjustmehts.

The Business Agent requested and received permission to print extra numbers of "Top Cel" whever deemed necessary. The extra edition is subject to the okay of the Editor.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
NEW ROCHELLE, MAY 16.

Motion made, seconded and carried that extra nominations be held for next month's elections to be added to the ballot.

Mr. Terry in replying to the Animator's letter informed the union through his laywer that he would agree to the change with two exceptions: (1) there would be no recognition of the union shop but only maintenance of membership, (2) the scope of grievance procedure would be limited to disputes arising out of interpretation of contract.

Our lawyer read the proposed contract and it was found the company proposed an apprenticeship period for Layout men (not in the Famous contract) and an extra classification of "Other Camera Men" in addition to a salary of $60.00 for regular cameramen instead of the $70.00 provided in the Famous contract.

It was decided to accept the cont contract if the Union Shop clause would be included and the salaries conform to those of the Famous unit and if our attorney approves the language.

FLIPPINGS

Wm. Pattengil now a Specialist (photography) 3/C.... Eddie Rehberg announces change of residence... now at Will Rogers Sanitarium, Saranac, N.Y.... would like to strike up a brisk correspondence, so sharpen those penpoints.... Louba Medaisky has parted company with Famous Studios... Opaque has another male representative... welcome Kenneth Litch..... Bernice Bernstein, Marge York and Warren Welch away on leaves of absence... Nellie Sanborn in charge of inking now that Aaron Krawitz has vacated residence for greener pastures ... (Locks and Norling).... Tommy Inada now in an army background Dept. in Camp Savage, Minnesota... .. Rose Schoenberg back at work in timing.. it's been a long time, Rose.....

REMINDER

Remember to get your Soldier Ballot Form out pronto. Without a Federal system of voting, the burden is put upon us to see that the soldiers get a square deal. See your Steward!!!

TRADE NEWS

Some excerpts from trade journals on some of the more recent Famous films;

MARRY-GO-ROUND. Mirthful. Popeye, as a sailor in the Navy, gazes from his hammock to his pin-up girls and starts pondering out loud on how to propose to Olive Oyl, who is running a boarding house. Shorty gives him a rehearsal. After several hilarious tries, Shorty nearly gets hooked and Popeye gets billigerent -without spinach. It is one of the best in some time and the Technicolor is fine. ("Boxoffice Showmansier. 1/29/44.)

MARRY-GO-AROUND. (Very Good) The Popeye series, since the adoption of Technicolor, has taken on new

life and refreshment. With no let up in Popeye's marital designs on Olive Oyl, this short brings his fruitless proposals one step near distraction. Popeye takes a few instructions in the art of love from his pal, Shorty, and when he muffs his lines while popping the question, Shorty takes over in the Charles Boyer manner, proving too hot for Popeye's health. Olive goes for "What-a-man" Shorty and Popeye has to step in to break up the chase. (Showmen's Trade Review. 2/6/44)

HER HONOR THE MARE. Better than usual. At last Popeye has succumbed to the lure of color. And what an improvement! This cartoon is far and away the best of the series to be turned out in a long, long time. This time Popeye is involved with a broken-down mare which his nephews bring home. He tries every trick to get rid of the mare but changes his mind when the stork calls on the animal. Technicolor should give new life to the series. ("Film Daily", 12/16/43.)

HER HONOR THE MARE. First in a new series of "Popeyes" in Technicolor, "Her honor the Mare" is a hilarious cartoon which features the sailor-man's three nephews and an old nag they rescued from the gluefactory and brought home for a household pet. Pop's efforts to get rid of the horse fail and the end finds friend horse dining with Popeye and the three boys. Technicolor does a lot for this. The musical background is excellent and the story is good. Popeye's many friends will like this one.

HER HONOR THE MARE. (Excellent) This first of the Popeye Cartoons in Technicolor is a bang-up piece of horseplay about a horse that came to dinner. Popeye's nephews find the horse a fugitive from a glue factory. They bring him home, where the efforts of Popeye to get rid of the unwelcomed though rejuvenated horse provides some hilarious moments. The arrival of the stork with four little horses saves the day for the nephews' pet. The addition of color to the popular Popeye series is a well taken step and is sure to meet with popular approval.

HEART THIEF. "HULABALULU stole our patron's hearts. Many stayed to see her the second time and each performance was greeted with applause." Buster Scott, Orpheum, Waco.

LULU GETS THE BIRDIE. SWELL. The high standard of cartoon fun established by Little Lulu in her past two efforts is maintained in the third number of the series. Lulu has a winsome charm which is fully exploited by the animators. Here, she gets angry at a little red bird for carrying tales, and almost causes its sudden demise at the hands of a greedy cat. However, her conscience balks, and Lulu sets things aright. ("Boxoffice Showmandiser" 5/13/44.)

FLIPPINGS

Saul Kessler ("Top Cel's" own Ernie Pyle) scraping the bottom of the barrel for gossip material... Steve Gattoni put $2.00 on a horse named "Double Itch' but the nag was 'scratched".... One April "Heavy Dew" day, "Tony" Creazzo came to work singing "Oh What a Beautiful Mornin"... he had won a bottle of scotch in a raffle... Mrs. Tessa Petrizzi, ace inker and colorer, off to Little Rock, Ark. to be with her hubby - who's in the combat engineers..... Dot Loth returned to Cincinnati to be with her other half... Larry Silverman took a couple of days off... "to get away from it all."

ITEMS

George Pal may do a number of Puppetton sequances in forthcoming Paramount musicals.... Demands by the Screen Cartoonists Guild for 20% of box office receipts on reissues and television have been refused by Film producers. .... Negotiations were recessed with the understanding that counter proposals will be submitted. "SCG-Geo Pal Now Ain't.- Hollywood, May 16.- Screen Cartoonists Guild and George Pal Studios have broken off negotiations, following a deadlock on classifications presented by the union. Meeting of the Pal Guild unit has been called to give SCG officers authorization to take any action they deem advisable to protect the members. If negotiations are not resumed, there is a possibility that the unit will be broken up and the craftsmen distributed in other unions affilated with the Conference of Studio Unions.

KNOW YOUR UNION

It's nearing election time and its good time that some real thought be given to the leadership you want in your union. The union represents labor's side of a business arrangement and warrants a business like approach.

The election is not a popularity contest and you don't have to poll your best friend. Vote for the person you think is best suited for the job and best suited to represent your viewpoint with strength. The following is the elected ballot. Check up the candidates and know whom you're voting for.

Elections will take place next General Membership meeting, June 13, at the Knickerbocker Hotel in 45th. & Sixth Ave., New York.

MEMBERS NOMINATED FOR OFFICERS IN OUR MEETINGS MAY 9TH. & 15TH.

PRESIDENT	Orestes Calpini Larry Silverman Ralph Pearson
VICE-PRESIDENT	Bob Little Ralph Pearson Nick Tafuri Martin Taras
RECORDING SECRETARY	Marea Bishop Woody Gelman Shirley Knoring Wilma Stevens John Walworth
FINANCIAL SECRETARY	Morey Roden Alice Rehberg Phyllis Shagrin Judy Weiner
TREASURER	Irving Dressler Dave Tendler Gordon Whittier
CONDUCTOR	Joe Oriolo Johnny Gentillele Lee Donahue
WARDEN	Joe Deneroff Joe Oriollo Lou Zukor
TRUSTEE I	Johnny Gentillela Nick Tafuri Martin Taras Dave Tendler
TRUSTEE II	Elaine Nickerboker Carlo Vinciguerra John Walworth Gordon Whittier
TRUSTEE III	Tony Crecizza Mildred Bishop Don Figlozzi Joe Deneroff
TOP CEL EDITOR	Woody Gelman Frank Little Lawrence Riley

T O P C E L

Vol. I Number 11 New York June 9, 1944.

Screen Cartoonists, Local 1461
2411 West 42nd. St. (Room 1302) LOngacre 5-6880

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GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
(General Elections.)
TUESDAY, JUNE 13th
7:30 P. M.
Knickerbocker Hotel, at
45th. and Sixth Ave.

STATE OF THE UNION

Our second elections are here and a review of the development of our Local will not be amiss.

One year ago, we were brand new, inexperienced and born at a time when it was necessary to play second viola to the war effort. In addition our behavior was under critical scrutiny of both management and labor. So, in retrospect, we think Local 1461 has grown up very satisfactorily under its handicaps, and we feel that orchids are due ourselves and our leadership. Especially, do we wish to commend the Terrytoon group for the most remarkable endurance in a bad situation, and, in particular, our first President, Bob Mc Kee, who has shown both push and endurance at a personal risk.

Specifically, we report that the contract at Terrytoons is about to be signed; that the W. L. B. has approved all provisions of the contract of the Famous Unit with the exception of salaries and the Bonus plan. (To be discussed at next meeting.) And those should be approved very soon.

The general machinery of our Local is clicking. We have an office and a paid Business Agent and Lawyer to keep it cliclking.

On Monday, June 12th. the Stewards will give the General Membership ballots, on the bottom of which will be stubs. Each individual will receipt his ballot by signing its stubs and returning it to the Steward in charge. Ballots will be placed in boxes on Tuesday, June 13. It's very important that we all vote and vote wisely. Our leadership must continue to be strong and well informed. THINK BEFORE YOU VOTE!

TRADE NEWS

Only 11 Disney shorts will be released this years, due to presure of production for various government agencies... The Screen Publicists Guild (Hollywood) has voted 234 to 30 in favor of applying to the Brotherhood od Painters for a Local charter.. Another member in our family!..... The Disney publicity boys tell the press that Walt has installed recording and playback machine outside the studio theatre to preserve reactions of his picture previews/ Three mikes have been placed to hear all the workers have to say.... Acting on a request from Washington, Hugh Harman Studio last week began preparing scripts and story boards for two special comedy subjects in thechnicolor, to be rushed to forces now fighting in Italy. One print of each film is to be made with Italian narration. Robert Allen is handling direction... George Pal's shorts for Paramount, hereafter will be billed as "puppetoons", instead of "Madcap Models".... Disney is planning to have simultaneous openings of "The Three Caballeros" his latest feature, in next fall in New York, Mexico City and Rio de Janeiro....

The negotiations in the coast: after nixing the 20% cut in reissues, Mr. O'Rourke, representing Lantz and Disney, counterproposed to renew their present agreement for next TWO years.... Leon Schlesinger proposed the same. Metro and Screen Gems, took similar position. At Pal the negotiations were broken and resumed. Finally, at Disney, the Conciliation Div. of the U.S. Dept. of Labor was called, trying to adjust the differences (like we did with our Terry contract). Local 852 claims

that not only the counterproposal don't offer anything new, but they actually offer to bring about a weakaning of several of their classifications, such as Story, Layout and Background. Disney is offering an incentive Bonus Plan... the Guild is set agaisnt it...

EDUCATIONAL PICTURES

"Movies are a half-century old and educators tried feebly to make teaching tools of them decades ago. Even now they are mereeducational side show. But recently the University of Chicago gave signs of leading a movement into the main tent. Its President accepted as a gift, Eastman Classromm Films, Inc., a $1.000,000 outfit. Eastman now becomes part of the University's Encyclopedia Britannica Films, Inc. which has also acquired from Western Electric the $3.000,000 ERPI Classroom Films. All told, Britannica can distribute about 500 films, graded from primary schools to teachers' colleges. This makes Britannica the biggest thing in its field. And it agreed with film men who think it is small potatoes compared to post war possibilities.

Film enthusiasts point to the U.S. Armed Forces' wartime redord. Many a military trainer facing a problem has appealed to Washington: "Let's make a movie." The Signal Corps has made 1,000 films, the Navy 700 for training flyers alone. Today there are 15,000 16-millimeter projectors available in U.S. schools. New Schools with projection facilities in every classroom are being planned by many communities. Inaaddition to Chicago, institutions active in producing or distributing educational films, include Vassar, N.Y.U., Indiana, California, Georgia. The Rockefeller Foundation-backed American Film Center has been working in the field. If such producers can oversome the hurdle of distribution problems, which defeated many earlier educational-film projects, they may lead in postwar developments." (Time, April 24/44)

FLIPPINGS

S/Sgt. George Baker finishing a book... Tony Loeb's been passing out cigars according to the old tradition.... The Fannings, changing domicile again (a few doors away 'tho).... Bob, Grant and a few others of Culver City tried to get out of the Army Air Force. The answer was NO!... Al Geiss working at Terry for the pass three months. .... The Sid Pillets leaving the East coast.... Nat Salzinger substituting for Warren Welch who says he hasn't been fired.... "C-L" Hartman weeding last week was quite an affair. Congratulations! ....Some of the Waves at the Anacostia Unit were allowed to move off the Base and are they happy... Muriel Batherman no longer at Famous... Howard Baldwin have received a commendation from the Commanding General of the Second Air Force. He is doing safe-flying propaganda... New at Famous, Ken Licht, Rhoda Rubinstein, Rose Schoenberg, Samuel Kai, David Levine, Sara Tsuruoka, Gloria Beckerman...Jim Carmichael has been yanked up to the Combat Intelligence Section at Air Force Hq. "First time I've been behind a drawing board since I've in this G-I suit".....

FOR SERVICE MEN ONLY

Ruling announced by Selective Service Headquarters on reemployment procedure:

"A returning veteran is entitled to reinstatement in his former position or one of like senority, status and pay, even though such reinstatement necessitates the discharge of a non-veteran with greater seniority.

"Seniority rights accumulate during the veteran's period of active service in the armed forces in the same manner as they would have accumulated had he remained continuously at work in his civilian occupaction.

A veteran, in order to claim reinstatement in a position, must be qualified to perform the duties and funtions of that positions If unable to qualify for an upgraded job, he is, nevertheless, entitled to a position equal in seniority, status and pay to the one which he left.

A veteran is entitled to his former position or one of like seniority, status and pay, and may refuse another, even though the pay is greater and offer other advantages.

ITEM

Walt Disney will make a feature representing a saga of music from modern to classic to boogie, woogie, which is tentatively titled "Swing Street". Benny Goodman has been signed to do the hepcat portion. This picture will be all cartoon and will include "Peter and the Wolf", "Martins and the Coys" "Clare de Lune" and two silhouettes written by Disney composers.

T O P C E L

Vol. 1 Number 12 New York June 16, 1944

Screen Cartoonists, Local # 1461
11 West 42nd. St., (Room 1302) - LOngacre 5-6880

Editor: W. Gelman, Asst. Editors: S. Knoring, J. Weiner
Pepe Ruiz, 800 Riverside Dr., N.Y. WAdsworth 3-2821
Marvin Cristenfeld, 30 Broad St.NY HAnover 2-8667
General Membership Meetings: Second Tuesday of each month
Executive Board Meetings: First and Third Mondays of each month

THE NEW OFFICERS

At the elections conducted in our last General Membership meeting the following members were elected:

President	Orestes Calpini
Vice-President	Ralph Pearson
Rec. Secretary	Shirley Knoring
Fin. Secretary	Phyllis Shagrin
Treasurer	Dave Tendlar
Conductor	John Gentillela
Warden	Joe Deneroff
Trustees	Nicholas Tafuri
	Gordon Whittier
	Mildred Bishop

Delegates from the Famous Unit to the Executive Board: Morey Reden and Bill Henning.
(The Terry Unit shall elect its two Delegates to the Board.)
Woody Gelman was elected editor of "Top Cel". Judy Weiner and Shirley knoring will act as Assistant to the Editor.

CONTRACTS

The Terry contract, approved by the Unit and the General Membership is about to be signed. However, there are still several points to be ironed out. For instance, in the vacation clause the word UNINTERRUPTEDLY can be taken in several ways and is liable to cause much confusion later. The military clause was forgotten again, etc. We hope the company takes care of those details as soon as possible.

At Famous, at a meeting with a representative of the W.L.B., it was determined that the best way to come to a practical conclusion on our app lication for approval of the Bonus Plan is to wait until the Board okays fir st our wage increase. It was disappointing to find that the approval of the plan has to be delayed again, especially since the members have been traying to meet the bonuses. However, we have the assurance of the company that the money earned will be credited, and ways and means will be found to pay it in case the W.L.B. does not approve its retroactivity to March 13.

After conferences with the Board, it was decided to make new application for approval of the increases. The argument that the union is giving is that since the company was organized on June 1942 the 15% Little Steel formula does not apply to us. Our claim is that our industry is nation wide, and that the sound and tested going rates are those of the five Studios in the West Coast.

As the members were informed at the last General Membership meeting, the W.L.B. is already making a survey of the animated cartoon industry for the purpose of establishing job classifications and range of salarie paid for each position. Once these facts are established, our position will be clearer and the early approval of both contracts will be possible.

FLIPPINGS

FLASH! Former Terrytoon Bakg'd artist, Johnny Vita, sergeant Cameraman in Sig. Corps, pulled a promised stunt on entry of allied in Rome. Gaining access to balcony of Palazzio Venezia, where Musso used to do his monkey act, he gave such a vivid imitation that the Roman crowds laughed and cheeres. So Johnny got his pix and write up broadcast throughout the world.... Jean Selby of the Anacostia unit, now Specialist 1st. Class, in N. Y. last week end..... Marge York back from vacation in Indiana.... Wahl and Spector again taking basic training..... Going woozy from eye strain, Irene Rowland had to quit inb. and go back to inking. Sorry Rene!..... Sam Cobean, of The New Yorker fame, now a Sergeant.....

TRADE NEWS

Conciliation hearing before Dept. of Labor Conciliator Service, regarding revision of contract between Cartoonist and Disney was completed. Studio execs and Guild will draw up points on which they differ and if they cannot be reconciled, case will be sent to War Labor Board for decision. Biggest difference is over failure of co. to provide for wage increases..... George Pal has agreed to arbitrate with the Local in Hollywood the layoff of an employee whom the Guild would not permit to do A classificati work while he remained in B classification..... Herb Sorell, the best friend the cartoonist have in the West or East coasts, was handed a new three year contract as busine

Representative of the Studio Painters, and added compensation to [illegible] raise his weekly minimum to $177.50. .....Leon Schlesinger agreed to pay five employes for time taken off to vote. Labor contract for the studio said he would recommend payment after Business Agent called to his attention the Calif. Election Code which allows employes two hours off with pay to cast their ballots..... Famous Studios doing a job for Office of War Information. .....Screen Office Employes Guild, sister Local of the Brotherhood of Painters, was certified by the N. L.R.B. as collective bargaining agent for White Collarites at 20th. Century Fox.....

FOR SERVICE MEN ONLY

Legislation assuring America's fighting men and women the best postwar treatment a nation has ever given, designed primarily to get war veterans good jobs and education instead of handing them a cash bonus as in the last war, was approved by Congress, despite some chiseling by Rep. John Rankin (D.Miss.). Popularly known as the GI Bill of Rights, it covers:

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS. During the first two years after their discharge, Veterans are allowed $20 a week unemployment benefits for a period up to 52 weeks.

EDUCATION. $500 a year tution, expenses for lab fees and books, $50 a month. Subsistence allowance (plus $25 for dependents) for Veterans who were under 25 when they joined the armed forces. (The age limitation was Rankin's handy work.)

BUSINESS LOAN. Private loans at 4% interest, with the Government guaranteeing up to 50% of the loan, up to a $2,000 maximum.

JOB PLACEMENT. Special provision will be made for arranging employment of veterans by the U.S. Employment Service.

HOSPITALIZATION. Free hospital care provided in Veterans Administration hospitals with $500 million authorized for construction of hospital facilities.

(Material taken from P M)

FLIPPINGS

RobertaWhitehead came up from Chicago for a visit. All "old" folks were tickled to see her.... Al Rose, of the Capra Unit in Hollywood, visiting New York..... Glen Couch getting married on June 23 at the Marine Post Chapel in Quantico, Va. She...? Pvt. Dorothy Stanley, U.S.M.C.R..... Terry Story Dept's Tommy Morrison chock full of new gags and very happy he picked up that "Joe Miller" joke book at a rummage shop.... Eugene Klein, Sam Buckweld smart and able lawyer, proud Father of a baby boy. (That's the reason he was not at the meeting the other morning.) ..... Chris Ishii with the O.W.I. some here in India..... Lt. Dick Alexander just arrived at New Guinea ..... Bernice Bernstein, back at Famous after a month absence doe to ill health..... Mrs. Ralph Pearson away for the summer.... Ellen Mahony joined Famous cel-polishing group!..... Christie Mc Fall of the Signal Corp unit, on furlough.... A cute colored gal lending color to Sparky's colorama harem. Welcome to Terrytoons Judy Short!.....

KNOW YOUR UNION

For the benefit of those that have asked us, we again repeat:

Withdrawal Cards should be requested in writing. In order to secure them, one has to be in good standing. With a Withdrawal Card you don't pay any dues because you are not active.

At the last General Membership meeting, once again, the members determined that dues should be paid in advance, and that in order to be in good standing, as determined in our by-laws, the members should have the same paid by the first of the month. However, the Business Agent was instructed not to present the list of those members in arrears to the Famous Studios until the 15th. of the month.

For the information of the members our office on the Salmon Tower Bld. Room 1312, is open Wednesday and Thursday between 12:30 and 1:30 and from 5:30 to 6:00. Members can pay as many months in advance as they wish; they can pay with checks, money order and one person can pay the dues of as many other members as he or she wishes.

Without asking permission of the Local, no member is allowed to take work home or do work above his classification. The member faces a fine or even expulsion.

All grievances should be reported to the Chairman of the Unit or to our Business Agent, so they can be taken up with the company.

Members to go into the service don' pay dues, as the Local will keep them in good standing.

T O P C E L

Vol. 1, Number 13 — New York, June 29, 1944

Screen Cartoonists, Local 1461
11 West 42nd. St. (Room 1302) - LOngacre 5-6880

Editor: W. Gelman. Asst. Editors: S. Khoring and J. Weiner
Pepe Ruiz, 800 Riverside Dr., N.Y. WAdsworth 3-2821
Marvin Cristenfeld, 30 Broad St.NY. HAnover 2-8667
General Membership Meetings: Second Tuesday of each month.
Executive Board Meetings: First and Third Mondays of each month.

The instalation of officers will take place at the Capitol Hotel on next Friday, June 30, 7:30 p.m. This is the first time that the union is meeting socially. "Refreshments" will be served and music will fill the air - so let's make this a good turnout!

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OUR UNION

In our last issue, in naming the new Officers, we forgot to announce that Nick Tafuri was elected Chairman of the Famous Unit. We are waiting for the Terry Unit to meet to elect their two delegates to the Executive Board and their Chairman.

In our last Board meeting, it was decided to form a Grievance Commitee in each plant. At Famous, Nick Tafuri Bob Connavale, Judy Weiner, Howard Post, Bill Hudson and Alice Rehberg, were appointed to form the same. These persons will act as Stewards, so all questions or interpretations of the contract should be directed to them or to our Business Representative.

We want to stress again that it is our duty to see that we all live up to our agreement with the company. Consult your Stewards if there is any question in which you feel the union can assist you.

Attention Executive Board members! As the first Monday of July, (the regular day for our Board meeting) falls before the 4th., the meeting will take place the follwoing Monday, July 10th. at the Commodore Hotel. Next day, July 11th., our regular membership meeting will take place at New Rochelle.

We haven't been able to get together with Mr. Terry's lawyer to present our signed contract to the W. L. B. Knowing how long the approval is going to take, it is unfortunate that Mr. Kerwin can not take care of our case as promised. At Famous too, we haven't been able to present our petition of approval of wages to the Board as yet.

At Famous the company has announced that the vacation period shall take place on August 11th. The Painters will not be able to take their vacations at that time as the dept. is a good deal behind schudele. If the work progresses more rapidly, it is possible that the entire plant can vacation at the same time.

The members at that studio asked to have Monday July 3rd. off, and the Company agreed. This, together with the two week vacation, are working examples of union achivement. However, it is necessary to add that those who take Monday off should be certain to report for work on Saturday July 8th.

TRADE NEWS

Warners has completed negotiations with Leon Schlesingers for purchase of later's cartoon studio, with price reported between $200,000 and $300,000 as reported in Variety. Price would give Warners 100% ownership and operation of the plant, and it is expected they will maintain the present studio quarters. (By the way, one of the worse in Hollywood.) Present staff and organization will be maintained intact but with likehood that Warners will appoint one of the studio Executive to take charge. Schlesinger started his cartoon company about 1929. It is understood that contract for delivery of his cartoon provided for payment on completion of each negative. Producer has been turning out around 40 cartoons annually in recent years.

Walt Disney, in New York to record Benny Goodman music for "Swing Street", believes there is a big post war future for educational films. "But I will not stick my neck out unless others go along," he said according to Variety. He believes that the current large interest in visual education is due to fact that pictures supplement books and lecture in teaching.

Cartoonist Local in Hollywood has 243 members in the service, one of highest percentage in the West Coast.

Question of six paid holidays and time and one-half for Saturday work when holiday falls within week was submitted to arbitration by the Guild in Hollywood. The Cartoonists were seeking pay for Christmas and New Year's which fell on Saturday following Thanksgiving and Memorial Day.

Plan for asking exhibitors for higher rentals on cartoons, due to increased production costs, was proposed by Walter Lantz. He urged that steps be taken to make theatremen aware of the fact that costs have increased 40% since 1942. "Authoritative surveys have proven that cartoons constitute a definite box-office drawing power," said he. "In this respect, cartoons even rate above newsreels in the short subjects field. They are as important to a film theatre bill as comic strips are to newspaper."

A STATEMENT OF POLICY

"Top Cel" is the printed voice of Local Union 1461.

The duties of this paper are:

1) To print news of the Union and its activities.

2) To present news of activities within the industry and allied industries that may be of interest to union members

3) To present fairly problems that arise between the Union and the Employers.

4) To accouaint members of political issues that pertain to the advancement and detriment of the Nation and the labor movement as a whole.

"Top Cel" desires to reflect the opinions of its readers. In support of this policy, "To Cel" invites the opinions and letters of both Labor and Management.

WORTH"HILE KNO"ING

Here are the New York State rules covering the employment of children:

No child under 14 may work.

No child under 16 mat work in a factory.

Children between 14 and 16 working after school or during the vacation period, must have work permits.

Children between 16 and 17 must have working papers.

- ---- ----------

FLIPPINGS

Excerpt from a letter from the West Coast: "...The main reason ... is to thank you for "Top Cel", espceially the last one. It tops ours by far. We are having elections this month.... It seems we lack the interest you fellows have back there. You New Yorkers are gaining more respect every day, more power to you...." Cpl. Jimmie Clabby, now in England, missing his bicycle rides dues to D-Day.....Eli Levitan is correcting Jimmy Tanaka's Hapanese ..... A/C George Giroux graduated on the 27th. at Stockton Field, Cal. .....Tony Loeb, back from Miami, after seeing his new arrival..... Jean Emerson leaving Terry's. Just got over pneumonia... Bill Sturm in charge of production at "Fletcher Smith"... Mary Zaffo Mathewson, Terry Camera Dept., retired permanently to be near hubby at Camp..... Marea Bishop Jacques down visiting her husband for two weeks.....

PFC Harry Arpadi back in this country after minor injury in Italy..... Helen (oh boy!) Bromback left Inbt. to do inking. (You don't flip cels Baby!)..... "Geegee" Renza, Connie's boy, a June grad, doing coloring until Army grabs him.... Nick Tafuri, Harry Ryterband and Leonard McCormick perfect speciments, accepted after their physicals. The are in the new "pool" now....Petite Peggy Adrian of coloring, now flipping inbet's. John Mendelsohn left Famous for greener pastures... until the Army gets him... Jacqueline Arias left to get marry... Cpl. "Wed" Murphy now overseas.... Connie Quirk of inking, now ibet. at Terry.....

MORE TRADE NEWS

Success of "Snow White" in its current re-release has prompted Disney to plan at least one animatior picture of that nature each year, and perhaps three every two years. He has set his story men to work preparing "Uncle Remus" from Joel Chandler Harris' fables; "Cinderella' "Alice in "onderland" and "Sword In The Strone", a King Arthur Round-table deriverative. Animation will not begin until after Disney has completed his commitments to the armed services as his major studio effort, his publicity Dept. says.

A REQUEST

The Merchant Seaman Club, 43rd. St., is distributing ties and theatre tickets to members of the Merchant Marine. There is a shortage of ties. Please donate any old ones you may have in your possession. These ties are as important as the tickets to insure admission to the theatres.

T O P C E L

Vol. 1, Number 14 New York, July 14, 44

Screen Cartoonists, Local 1461
11 West 42nd. St. (Room 1302) - LOngacre 5-6880

Editor: W. Gelman; Asst. Editors: S. Khoring, S. Kessler, J. Weiner
Pepe Ruiz, 800 Riverside Dr., N.Y. WAdsworth 3-2821
Marvin Cristenfeld, 30 Broad St. NY HAnover 2-8667
General Membership Meetings: Second Tuesday of each month
Executive Board Meetings: First and Third Mondays of each month.

OUR UNION

The contracts of Terrytoons and Famous are once more before the W. L.B. This time they are accompanied by letters signed by both the union and the employers in which some points which had previously held up the decision are now clarified. There seems to be some chance that a decision may be handed down in another 4 or 5 weeks.

Begining next week, Terrytoons will commence paying the general increase of $4.70. This is based on a W.L.B. order which allowed a blanket 15% increase on the total payroll.

When Mr. Cristenfeld was retained as the Union's attorney, it was decided by the members that he would be paid the equivalent of the first weeks raise of all the union members. In the last general meeting the membership voted that the Treasury pay this out as a lump payment and each person at Terrytoons will be assessed that amount separately.

Since a similar agreement exists at the Famous Studio, "Top Cel" wishes to remaind the members of that plant, particular the new members, that the first week's raise (not the first week's salary) will similarly be assessed to pay the members obligations to the attorney.

The two delegates from Terry to the Executive Board were elected: Don Figlozzi and Marea Bishop.

Pepe Ruiz is taking a three week leave of absence, so all complains should be given to the Chairman of your Unit.

Next Executive Board meeting will take place Monday, July 17, at the Commodore Hotel, 7 p.m. The Board is inviting to this meeting all Animators and Head Animators plus the Stewards.

TRADE NEWS

New method of producing animated cartoons with plastic models and characters will be utilized by Plastic Cartoons, organized by L. Morey, John Sutherland and John Landis in Hollywood. Use of plastic models for animation, combined with color photography, gives third dimensional effect which is not possible generally in the regular cartoons. Plastic process was developed by Lion, and allows for molding characters in large numbers, utilizing one for figure in each frame of film, with change in movement flexible through workability of the plastic material used. Figures are set up from pencil animation, miniatures sets are used, and cartoons shot in stop motion as is the rule with this type of production. This films will be released by United Artists with whom the outfit has signed a contract. Four pictures will be released each year. The title of the first will be "The Cross-eyed Bull"

Results of the election at the Local in Hollywood:

Ray Patin	President
Al Amatuzio	Vice President
Helen Hansen	Recording Secretary
Cornett Wood	Treasurer
Bob Carlson	Warden
Ace Gamer	Conductor
Volus Jones	Trustee
Paul Julian	Trustee
Jack Bailey	Trustee

Cecil Beard, Curtis Dean, Ted Parmalee and Charlotte Adams will represent the Local in the Central Labor Council. Bob Cannon and Paul Sommer were named as delegates to the Conference of Studio Unions. They also voted to create a new office of executive secretary and to combine those duties with that of Financial Secretary. Curtis Dean, who was elected to post, also will act as assistant to the B.A.

Leon Schlesinger resigned as chairman of the Cartoon Producers Assn. Walter Lantz is acting as temporary Chairman. The Assn. has agreed to launch an educational campaing to show exhibitors the increased cost of production. This will be a preliminary drive to get higher rentals for cartoon productions.

A field survey by Motion Picture Daily discloses that aproximately 71 per cent of the country's 16,500-odd theatres show double bills regularly or otherwise, against 73% two years ago.

FLIPPINS

Nesta Thomas left Famous for Fletcher Smith....A/S Perry Rosove in Pampa, Texas... Phil Lazara, former Terrytoon Inbet., now on sick leave, dropped in with missus, looking very healthy, but not fully recovered yet. Make it snappy Phil! .... Flash! Mr. & Mrs. Don Figlozzi expecting a little Don Jr. in Sep. Harold Abbey, formely of Famous & Terry, now free lancing...Josephine Baker of Terry's, Left.... T/Sgt. Earl Patton in Fresno, Calif.... Zeke de Grasse on furlough with the Massies in New York.... Irving Dressler now officially in story dept. at Famous... Terry's Mgr. Chas Perrin's high perch was ripped apart and now everything Charly says and does is on the level.Haw! .... Flash!... Animation Room at Terry completely renovated in pastel green. First time in memory of old timers that room got new coat.... In C.B.S. Television Quiz, Myrle Munson, Johnny Walworth, Debbie Shaw, Woody Gelman and Lillian Grossman competed for $25 War Bond. Johnny copped the honors.... Marvin Grau in Hollywood on furlough.... Betty Brown has gotten a release from the Navy. She is expecting a baby.... Handsome Anber Kneitel new member of the Navy Animation Unit. ....Bob Kuwahara is expected to start working at Famous... Arnold Gillespie left Metro for Harman's. ....Harold Robbins applied for a Work Permit... Stevens, camera man from Metro, now at the Signal Corp in New York... Mannette Lambertson married... Jean Selby, Sp. 1/C,now in charge of Painting and Inking at Anacostia, getting ready for officers training...

THE EDITOR'S COLUMN

This column is being inagurated for the express purpose of presenting personal opinions. In all other portions of Top Cel, every effort will be made to keep strickly to fact. This column, however, is frankly dedicated to opinion.

The value of such an idea is achived only when everyone expresses himself. It is not the purpose of the Editor to give hin own opinionsalone, as they may differ from those held by the members. We would prefer, rather, to make this column the voice of the members. So here is a chance to express our opinion, gripe, tear down the union, the employer, or even a compliment and give suggestions. An effort will be made to answer an act upon these letters.

A union exists for the advancement and utilization of the strenth of those who compose it. Through the power of the union, many results can be achieved that would be impossible of attainment otherwise. These improvements do not come of themselves. They are the results of ideas and work, and require just as much effort as was originally expended in organizing the union. This work must be done by all. Once the union, or its paper, is controled by a few individuals only, its value is lost and it becomes a force that controls rather than helps. So make your opinion heard. Write letters and attend meetings.

FOR SERVICE MEN ONLY

From a late bulletin from Selective Headquarters in regard to veterans who desire to assure their former jobs, it is stated that both men and women dischargees who left for the service after May 1, 1940, either voluntarily or through draft are entitled to their old jobs. They are entitled to like seniority and pay with the following conditions: If the positions is a permanent one; if, when he left, he did so of his own volition in order to enter the armed services, or because of the draft; if he applies for re-employmnet within 40 days after his discharge from the service; and if the employer still has the position.

Once back on the job, the employee is to be considered as having been on furlough during his absence and shall not lose seniority, he shall be entitled to participate in insurance or other benefits with other employees, and he may not be discharged without cause for one year after his re-employment.

MORE TRADE NEWS

"Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" is topping business it did in first week at the Hillstreet and Pantages Theatres in Los Angeles six years ago by substantial percentage. Second general release of picture. on basis of reports from around the country, indicate that it is beating precious healthy grosses in every situation Indications are that Disney and RKO will add another comfortable $2,000.000 or thereablouts to record gross first racket by picture.

TOP CEL

Vol. 1, Number 15 New York, July 28, 1944

Screen Cartoonists, Local 1461
11 West 42nd. St. (Room 1302) - LOngacre 5-6880

Editor: W. Felman Asst. Editors: S. Knoring and J. Weiner
Pepe Ruiz, 800 Riverside Dr., N.Y. General Membership Meetings:
WAdsworth 3-2821 Second Tuesday of each month.
Marvin Cristenfeld, 30 Broad St. N.Y. Executive Board Meetings: First
HAnover 2-8667 and Third Mondays of each month.

Executive Board Meeting
August 7, at the Commodore Hotel, 7 P.M., Monday
General Meeting
August 8, at the Knickerbocker Hotel, 7 P.M.

TEXT OF WLB RULING ON FAMOUS STUDIOS CASE

INTEREM RULING

National War Labor Board
Second Region
220 East 42nd Street
New York 17, N.Y.

July 19, 1944

Famous Studios
25 West 45th Street
New York, N. Y.

In reply refer to:
Re: Case No: 2-32572-D-4
Date of application: 3/31/44
Effective Date of Ruling: 3/13/44

Gentlemen:

The new mnima set forth in the above-numbered case are hereby approved.

The approval is based on the statements of fact submitted in the application and is made under Executive Order 9328 dated April 8, 1943, and the policy Directive of the Director of Economic Stabilization dated May 12, 1943.

Ruling on the severance pay proposals and your incentive plan will follow at a subsequent date.

Very truly yours,
National War Labor Board
Second Region

LATE BULLETIN:

Severance pay provision in Famous contract was approved retroactive to March 13, 1944. Provision follows:

"Severance pay shall be given on termination of employment. After six months, one half week's pay; after one year, one week's pay; after two years, one and a half week's pay; after two years or more, two week's pay. No severance pay shall be paid to any employee who resigns or who is discharged for misconduct."

All members who believe they have grievances that rise out of this ruling based upon clasifications, retroactive pay, or any other problem, should see their department stewards or the union attorney, Mr. Cristenfeld.

The Terrytoon contract will be taken up by the W.L.B. in about two weeks.

All persons working in the Famous Studios prior to the date of the ruling (July 19, 1944) should pay the amount of their first week's raise to John Gentilella or their dep't. steward. Make sure you get a receipt for this sum. This amount is an assessment that the union previously voted to grant to the union attorney.

During the two week absence of our business agent, John Gentilella and Joe Deneroff have been designated to accept payment of dues at Famous Studios.

A LETTER FROM THE UNITED STATES EMPLOYMENT SERVICE (USES)

Dear Mr. Cristenfeld:

The animation cartooning industry is not considered an essential industry. Therefore, the employees may change from plant to plant within the industry without release, but within the boundary of the New July 1st regulations. That would mean that all men between the ages of 18 to 45 would have to get clearance through the United States Employment Service, before accepting any new employment.

Yours very truly,
S.A. King
Emp. Interviewer

SAVE THIS ISSUE OF TOP CEL FOR THE SCRAP PAPER DRIVE:

* * * * * * * * * * * *

Walter Lantz will increase shorts in his "Woody Woodpecker" series from four to seven for the coming year.

EDITOR'S COLUMN:

Now that the raises have come

through at Famous there is good reason for rejoicing in a job well done. The raising of the wage scales, the two week vacation, sick leave clauses, etc. are the results of years of effort, and they are only the beginning of what a good union can accomplish for its members.

Terrytoons, too, should have its contract approved soon, and it will then be fine to consider methods of working out a closer relationship between the two shops. Every attempt should also be made to work out plans coordinating the union on the coast with local 1461.

The approval of the local's first contracts should go far in encouraging the smaller plants located in New York to join forces with us. Separately we are weak. Together we can accomplish much.

A LETTER FROM A SOLDIER:

"Dear Jim:

Received your V-mail. Am okay -lucky I guess. Even as I write this the German shells are falling near us. Things are like an awful dream out here. I just can't describe some of the things we have to endure. Never can relax for a minute - always under tension. The German mortar and artillery barrages really strike terror. I don't mind attacking machine guns, 'cuz you know where the bullets will fly, but you're helpless under a barrage. It's worse than hell out here. You see your friends killed and wounded all over. A dead German makes us happy - means one less Jerry to shoot at us. Only consolation is - we are beating the Jerries back. Jim, everyone prays out here - there is nowhere else to look for help. Sorry for this dismal letter. Promise I'll do better next time. I'll be seeing you pal."

This letter is as good an argument as it is possible to give why our union should combat racial discrimination within our midst. It was sent to one of our members by an American soldier of Japanese extraction.

FLIPPINGS:

Joe Oriolo busy with his new home at Bergenfield, New Jersey.. There's been a new spurt in request for service men's ballots.. Harry Hershfield gave the Little Lulu series a swell plug last week in the N.Y. Mirror .. Jean Greb - now an inbetweener. Jeanne Kearse replacing Jean Greb in paint lab.. Blossom Fenning left Famous .. Mina Morrissey left Famous to find a capable person to care for her child during the day.

CARTOONISTS ASK WLB TO MAKE DISNEY PAY FOR HOLIDAYS:

Screen Cartoonists Local 852 has asked War Labor Board to enforce immediate compliance by Walt Disney studio with recent decision giving 391 members approximately $10,000 for work done last Christmas and New Year's days. Cartoonists assert Disney has refused to make payment for holiday time on grounds it would not be legal under wartime salary restrictions.

Wire from Cartoonists was sent to Thomas Fair Neblett, chairman of the 10th Regional War Labor Board, San Francisco, and signed by M. W. Pomerance, business representative. Pomerance met Saturday with Anthony O'Rourke, director of labor relations for Disney, and charges latter both declined to make payment without authorization from government or to accompany SCG representative to WLB offices for okay.

Decision directing Disney to pay straight time for work performed by cartoonists on Christmas, 1943, and New Year's, 1944, was given by Spencer Pollard, arbitrator, June 26, settling dispute covering interpretation of labor contract between union and studio.

Decision held that workers were entitled to the holiday pay despite the fact that the holiday fell on Saturdays, for which employees receive time and a half.

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T O P C E L

Vol. 1 Number 16 New York August 25/44

Screen Cartoonists, Local 1461
11 West 42nd. St. (Room 1302) - LOngacre 5-6880

Editor: G. Gelman. Assistant Editors: Shirley Knoring & Judy Weiner
Pepe Ruiz, 800 Riverside Dr., NY. WAdsworth 3-2821
Marvin Cristenfeld, 30 Broad St.NY. HAnover 2-8667
General Membership Meetings: Second Tuesday of each month.
Executive Board Meetings: First and third Mondays of each month.

Executive Board Meeting
August 30, at the Commodore Hotel, 7 P.M., Wednesday
General Meeting
September 12 at New Rochelle, 7 P. M.
(On the agenda: New Dues.-)

"TOP CEL" and the members in the East Coast are very grateful and thank the cartoonists of the West Coast for their acceptance and interest in our little paper. It always was our aim, with our common background, to have the two groups as close as possible. The interest of the members out there has inspired us to try bigger things. We hope "Top Cel" keeps giving them what they want.

TERRYTOON'S CONTRACT APPROVED

After many weeks of waiting, the W.L.B. has finally approved the contract we signed with Terrytoons Inc.

The Board decided in favor of every single one of its clauses. It approved the minima in salary which are the same as Famous and practically the same as the West Coast. (The girls dept. is the only group which doesn't make as much.) Also approved were clauses on vacations, sick leave, protection for men in the service, and retroactive pay to Feb. 1st. Considering that the plant was paying the girls $15 and $17 per week, the retroactive pay up to the present minima ammounted to a tidy sum, some girls making over $300.00.

Important also was the ruling that ALL employees should receive a raise at least 11.75 cents per hour or $4.70. At one time the Co. was not including all its employees in that WLB. ruling, but that point has been cleared up.

AFTER VACATIONS

It is good to see the tanned faces of some of our members after their first TWO weeks vacation. For some unkown reason, only ONE week vacation has been customary in New York. One can't accomplish much in such a short time as everyone knows. Famous has offcially announced to our Business Agent that the girls vacation will begin September 11th.

At Famous there was a misunderstanding as to whether a vacation earned was lost because a member was fired or quit. The Union saw to it that the members were given the vacation earned according to our contract. A similar case concerning Marea Bishop of Terry's is going to be arbitrated.

Slowly perhaps, but surely, we are realizing that unionism is more than a question of this or that salary. A contract is nothing more than the basis of our relations with the Employer, as the members in the West Coast found out. It would be a great mistake for anyone to retire into his or her private shell simply because we have acquired a contract. We are entering a new phase which will require a good deal of effort and good will so that the contract will be interpreted to everyone's satisfaction. The membership must remain alert to new developments in order to back up or reject any action of the Executive Board.

The national elections are getting near and it is of paramount importance that we take an active part, both as a Union and as individuals. What kind of administration do we want?

Improvements do not come of themselves, they are the result of ideas and work. This must be done by all. Once the union is controled by a few individuals only, its value is lost and it becomes a force that controls rather than helps.

FLIPPINGS

Terrytooners were smiling like mad last Friday when retroactive pay was given. P. S. "Margie's" cash register was putting in over time by way of celebration... Margaret Selby married to Roger Daley a few weeks ago.... Bill Tytla back from vacation with a bad case of poison ivy on both hands... Cy Young, USA. on assigment at Disney.. Ed Rehberg aks his friends to write him at: "Will Rogers Memorial Hospital", Laranac Lake, N.Y. How about it, boys and girls?... C. Auditore from "Somewhere-in-Italy" sends us his new address. We hope ALL MEN IN THE SERVICE do the same so we can send them Top Cel... Director Joe Barbera, Father again...Bob Kuwahara, formelly at Disney & MGM, now with Terry. Good luck Bob!..... From Anacostia, on furlough, Don Tobin in Hollywood, Tom Byrne in NewYork. .... Bill Smith, from the Culver City unit, a Father... . Mike Tessa of Terry's now overseas in France in the middle of things....

In The Animator we read that Art Babbitt is now connected with US Marine Corp Aviation; Ade Woolery a Father of a boy; Jack Cosgriff is out of the Navy; Sgt. Stan Walsh a nose gunner of a B-24 Somewhere in England; Bernie Schibler on leave from Anacostia; Mr. & Mrs. Tee Hee a baby daughter..... Pepe, back from Hollywood, bragging about the Calif. summer... The beautiful ring the Terry boys purchased for Johnny Vita (showing him pull that burlesqe of Musso on the Rome balcony) is on its way overseas. We hope he enjoys wearing it as much as we enjoyed his hunt!... Donald Machael, new baby of Don Figlozzi. .... Says Jim Will from the South Seas: "My mail is slipping and I'm lonely for some nice words from the female sex. Would some nice girl be interested in my morale?" Write S/Sgt. Jim Will; Hdq. Co. Relief Map Sect.; III Phib Corp, c/o. FPO. San Francisco, Calif.... Lt. Dick Alexander writing stories for cartoons inbetween bombing missions.

MEJICO!

We receive a letter from the cartoon studio down there: "Here is no rush amigo, there is always manana. We like the country muy mucho, especialmente beer "Carta Blanca". Of course, senor, if you want theengs a leethe faster, poco pesos. At the studio the electricity was turned off for two weeks because the right person has not been given "el necesario!" After we paid off, the rainy season began and the lights went off again. Upon inquiring if a further donation was necessary, we were informed, "But senor, thees lights nevair work een the season of the raeen."
Actually this is a swell spot! We hope we can stick it out and get results. This is like the Nirvanah where all good cartoonists may come when they die. EEF they have a couple pesos, of course....."

INCREASE OF DUES

At our last General Membership meeting the question of raising our $2.00 dues as a means of eleminating our present deficit was discussed. It was decided to form a Committee which would compile and present the necessary dato to our Executive Board, meeting next Wed., Aug. 30 at the Commodore. The Board will have its recommendation before the next General Membership.

Obiously this is a question which concerns everyone. The West Coast has dues ranging from $2.50 to $4.50 which some of us feel is too much. But simply saying that the Hollywood dues are too high doesn't solve our problem. Because if we want to function like an active union and not like a company affair, we must pay for it. Everyone should participate in our ultimate decision. It won't do any good to beef after the dues question has been settled. So make a point to be present at the next meeting at New Rochelle Sep. 12 and express your own opinion.

WE LOSE A GREAT LEADER: MAREA BISHOP

Marea Bishop, one of the founders and staunchest pillars of the Terryroon Unit and a profound guiding force in our Local, has resigned from Terrytoons to join her husband Frederick Jacues, USN, out West.

To try to express our affection and admiration for Marea in words would be futile and, indeed, frustrating. We know she will understand the depth of our feeling for her. We can only thank God that she was with us when we needed her most and pray that Life rewards her with some of the happiness her work has made possible for others.

FOR SERVICE MEN ONLY

We have all heard, at different times, of the nasty unions that are depriving so many people of their daily bread by high initiation fees. It seems that the returning veterans were to be the next victims. It provides an excellent opportunity to smear the American unionist.

The Executive Board of our Brotherhood has issued a mandate permiting local unions to initiate honorable discharged war veterans without the payment of ANY initiation fee.

We already have a ruling that any ex-member of the cartoon industry, anyone that has worked at any cartoon studio and is now in uniform can join our Local by paying $5.00 the minimum initiation fee instead of the regular $100 asked of non-veterans.

Actions, as usual, speak louder than words.

MID SUMMER MADNESS

I think that I should scream
If I should see another in-between.
An inbetween
Who's beckoneen
One such as I
To have a try
At drawing it.
Inanimit
Yit
It
Must move
And thus to prove
The screen
Is quicker than the een.

Oh he-l
Ring the bell!

N.C.

TRADE NEWS

Leon Schlesinger's studio has changed its name to Warner Bros., Cartoons, Inc. Its new head is Ed. Selzer who has been in charge of W.B. trailer dept. for a number of years. Warners announced that all cartoons were to be called Warnes Bros Comedies instead of Merri Melodies and Looney Tunes. However, at the last moment it was decided that the two series would retain their existing tags. One immediate result of the change is that the studio is finally being fixed and cleaned. The plant is closed now on a two week vacation.

Hugh Harman is going to dubb all his pictures in French, German, Spanish and Portuguese. The company has now 19 shorts in production. Disney will dubb his "Saludos Amigos" in German. Already the film has been done in French, Spanish, Swedish, Portuguese and Dutch. Teutonic version of "Fantasia" will be made following completion of tract of "Amigos". Camp Show unit of employees at the plant have started a four months tour of bases and hospitals around Calif. Disneyites are comprised of Huggajeedy ork, vocalists, artists and voices of Disney-created characters. The studio is embarking on heaviest schedule of entertaiment pictures in years, with four cartoon features in various stages of production plus 18 shorts.

George Pal has signed deal with Dr. Seuss, author of "To Think That I Saw It on Mulberry Street," which producer has just translated into a Puppetoon, for latter to write series of stories. Also mas made deal with A. H. Rittner to make and distribute plastic dolls of Jasper.

David Hand, who left Disney to open negotiations with Arthur Rank British producer, for cartoon production unit of his own, closed for rights of French comic opera "L'Eclair". Plans are to produce opera in animation form either here or in England.

Cartoonist Guild has notified all cartoon studios that question of holiday pay for last Christmas & New Year's will be submited to arbitration. Arbitration will be on two points, whether other plants should be bound by the Disney ruling, or, if not, whether they shouldn't pay for the two holidays anyway.

WORKERS' RECORD MORE THAN 99% PERFECT
(From "In Fact"

There are official statistics which have always shown that dispite minor strikes sensationalized in press and radio, the record of labor has been better in this war than that of any other group or class. Official figures for June 1944 released by the Dept. of Labor show labor's record is 99.91%. This record will compare with not only that of soldiers in training but soldiers at the front going AWOL.

The fakery of the press consists of headlines such as these: "Time Lost in '41 strikes Figure at 44,000 Rifles"; "Steel Loss... Strike Cost Output Enough to Build 30 Destroyers." But what no commercial newspaper ever headlines is the folloing news: "Entire Navy Could Be Built in Time Lost by 9-Month Accident Toll".

T O P C E L

Vol. 1 Number 17 New York, Sept. 10/44

Screen Cartoonists Local 1461
11 West 42nd Street (Room 1302) - LOngacre 5-6880

Editor: G. Gelman. Assistant Editors: Shirley Knoring & Judy Weiner
Pepe Ruiz, 800 Riverside Dr., N.Y. WAdsworth 3-2821 — General Membership Meetings: Second Tuesday of each month.
Marvin Cristenfeld, 30 Broad St., N.Y. HAnover 2-8667 — Executive Board Meetings: First and third Mondays of each month.

GENERAL MEETING
September 12th at New Rochelle, 7 p.m.
At Cameo Movie House, North and Main Street
On the agenda: NEW DUES ARRANGEMENT

OUR UNION

The following recommendations to the General Membership were passed by the Executive Board and will be brought up at the next meeting Tuesday September 12, at the Cameo Movie House, in New Rochelle recommended to endorse the proposal of Local 637 of Chicago to reduce the per capita tax to the International from .80 to .60 per member.

Recommendation to endorse the CIO Political Action Committee.

Recommendation to raise the dues and to increase the Business Agent salary to from $50 to $64.40 per week; also to retain the Union attorney at $50 per month.

Last recommendation was accompanied by considerable discussion of two Executive Board meetings. It was finally agreed that the dues were raised along the lines that will be suggested at the General Meeting that the proposed sum for the B.A. and the lawyer could be met and the Union deficit of $50 monthly could be changed to a monthly surplus of $50.

All Union members who have received no increases under the contract are to pay the Union attorney the minimum fee of one dollar. This is in confirmaty with the motion passed by the Membership Nov. 3, '43. This sum can be paid to the Stewards or to the Business Agent.

In an economic retrenchment, Terrytoon laid off Bob Kuwahara, Al Geiss, Bill Bailey, Izzy Klein, Bill Tytla, Ralph Sancier, Martin Taras and Mike Prendergost. Bill Tytla, Izzy Klein and Martin Taras were rehired at Famous. Bill Tytla was hired as a Director.

Any member that left Terrytoons after February 1, 1944 or Famous after March 13th, who feel that they are entitled to retroactive pay should contact our Business Agent Pepe Ruiz or either one of the addresses on the masthead.

DUES AT FAMOUS ARE HENCEFORTH TO BE COLLECTED BY THE STEWARDS JUDY WEINER, SHIRLEY KNORING, JOHNNY GENTILLELA, JOE DENEROFF, ALICE REHBECK, BOB LITTLE AND LEONARD MC CORMICK.

FLIPPINGS

After a forced silence due to preparations for the Guam job, Dick McDemort writes us of his experiences landing on D-Day. There he is now Combat Artist for the M.C. 3rd. Amphib. Corps..... Our Editor had a letter on P M last Friday..... Says Phil de Lara from New Caledonia: "Right during old Cecil's super duper movie-tempest in The Story of Dr. Wassell our own genuine storm let loose, complete with driving rain, wind, thunder and lightning and all hell breaking loose around and above us.... Earl Klein of Warner's, formerly with Famous Studios, Father of a boy, Aug. 13... Jim Davis formerly with Famous, opened a florist shop at 218 Los Feliz Blvd., Glendale, Calif.... Mrs. M. Bishop looking very tanned after vacation. Marea writes us that so far she hasn't seen the famous California sun.... Lt. Geo. Giroux, after a second furlough, now stationed on Lincoln, Neb. ready to go out.... Edna May Regal asks: "Why don't I ever see my name in "Top Cel".... Clifford Augustson wondering about his future in the army.... Our attorney send his regards to all from Lakeville, Conn. where he is vacationing.... After many years with Terry, Molly Robert Warren leaving

TRADE NEWS

MOREY AND SUTHERLAND PRODUCTIONS signed Frank Tashlin as supervision director for their cartoon series.

Four shorts from the Disney Studios designed to teach reading - the first of their kind - will be tried out in Mexico to determine whether the industry has something new of worldwide importance. Latest production to be announced by the company is tentatively title "Carnival" and its locale will be Cuba. Writers will go to the island republic for material and Mr. & Mrs. Disney have accepted invitation to stay with President Batista. New one-year contract calling for an average 15% wage tilt for cartoon cameramen was inked. Those receiving $50 are

THE ATTITUDE OF THE NATION'S UNION PAPERS TOWARDS THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES.

Classes of Papers	Percentages of Roosevelt references that were: favorable	unfavorable	Percentages of references to Dewey & other Republicans pre-Convention candidates that were: favorable	unfavorable
References in all papers	84%	6%	5%	88%
A.F.of L.natl.papers	78	0	0	*
A.F.of L.local "	83	1	0	67
CIO national papers	95	1	0	100
CIO local "	94	0	0	100
Independent union papers	43	40	30	40
Unaffiliated local "	90	5	0	100

* The number of references was to small to warrant striking a percentage. What little did appear, however, was unfavorable.

TRADE NEWS (cont.)

raised to $60, those receiving $65 to $75, those getting $75 to $85 and those being paid $85 are moved up to $98.40. The Catroonist Local in Hollywood has to ask the Calif. State Labor Commissioner to collect approximately $10,000 in wages. The studio failed to pay some 400 men for last NewYear's and Christmas, although an arbitration decision ordering the payment has been approved by the War Labor Board.

George Pal closed his studio on the 1st. for a two week vacation period. The Company has petitioned 2,500 exhibs throughout the country for suggestions on three new Puppetoon characters.

The Air Corps Unit in Culver City has moved into a brand new building designed specially for them. It is claimed to be better than Disney's. Single men and Private have been asked to be moved back to the Post.

Locals of the Painters in Hollywood (Cartoonists, Office Employees, Publicits, Painters, etc.) are endorsing a drive to force the Brotherhood of Painters to reduce its per-capita tax from 80 to 60 cents. Campaign was launched by Chicago Local and matter will be presented to our General Membership next Wednesday, September 12.

EDITOR'S COLUMN

This Tuesday there will be a general meeting at New Rochelle. One of the very important issues to be voted upon is the matter of raising the dues. There are many reasons for desiring the raises which we will not go into here as they will be freely discussed at the meeting. However, we wish to stress this point about the meeting: Several proposals have been suggested to the Executive Board as to how much the dues should be raised. Most of these proposals suggest a sliding scale based upon salaries. The dues increases range from .50 to 2.50 over the present $2.00 rate.

Many persons may feel that they disagree with the amounts of these raises but unless they attend the meeting and vote, they must have only themselves to blame if the decisions arrived at are contrary to their desires.

At the moment of writing, it seems that most of the persons planning to come are in the higher income brackets. So., if those in the lower brackets desire to protect their interests they must plan in making the trip to New Rochelle this Tuesday, September 12.

The United Automobile Workers, CIO. have recently released a 15 minute animated cartoon called "Hell-Bent for Election." This film and a sound projector can be rented for $15.

The Editor would like to run this film for the union members. However, since the film is definitely pro-Roosevelt we do not feel that union funds should be used to run a film thar is contrary to the philosophy of Republican members. However, it is felt that if around 100 persons care to see the film and would care to spend 15 cents apiece, the showing can be arranged. Those who would be in favor of this plan can fill out the following form and return it to the editor.

I WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE ANIMATED "HELL-BENT FOR ELECTION" TO BE SHOWN AT THE MEETING IN NEW YORK OCTOBER 10.

Name .....

T O P C E L

Vol. 1, Number 18 — New York, Sept.25, 1944.

Soreen Cartoonists, Local 1461
11 West 42nd St.(Room 1302)- LOngacre 5-6880

Editor: W. Felman Asst. Editors: S. Knoring and J. Weiner
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Marvin Cristenfeld, 30 Broad St. N.Y. HAnover 2-8667

General Membership Meetings: Second Tuesday of each month.
Executive Board Meetings: First and Third Mondays of each month.

In order to consider the denial of the W.L.B. to our proposed Bonus Plan and possible new arrangement the EXECUTIVE BOARD will meet MONDAY, Sept.25 at the Capitol Hotel and GENERAL MEMBERSHIP will meet THURSDAY, Sept. 28 at the same place, Eigth Ave. & 50th. The time 7:30 p.m.

BONUS PLAN DENIED

Last week the National War Labor Board denied the application for approval of our incentive plan worked out with Famous Studio.

Since the plan was accepted, two groups, the Assistants and Animators, have declined to accept the Bonus Plan. The members recently laid off at Terry's due to the fact that the company was over a year ahead of production, has been the most important consideration in discouraging any incentive system that may directly start a speed up.

Here is the letter of the Board:
"With reference to the above numbered application for Board approval of a proposed incentive system, the request is denied.

For the consideration of incentive systems Board criteria requires that proposed production standards be substantiated by past performance data covering a recent and representative period prior to the proposed retroactive date. If information requested by Item 16 in Form 246 is inapplicable, material should still be submitted showing (1) that the proposed incentive treatment is applicable to the current productive technique in the subject plan (2) that the period of past performance used to determine standards is one of stabilized and standard manhour productivity and (3) that the retios of established average past performance to proposed standards conform with Board criteria.

For the Story and Camera groups no data on past performance is submitted. For the Inbetweeners Background and Inking groups the submitted data is inadequate to enable the determination of the above three criterias."

A request is being sent to the Board trying to secure the payment of the Bonuses owed by the company.

OUR UNION

In our last General Membership meeting, in spite of the heavy rain and the distance, a fairly good number of members attended and discussed the different recommendations of the Board.

The members voted upon the following stagger system of dues payment.

Those making up to $30	2.50 p.m.
from $30.01 to 35	3.00 p.m.
from $35.01 to $50	3.50 p.m.
from $50.01 to $70	4.00 p.m.
over $70.01	4.50 p.m.

Those working under a Work Permit will have to pay the same dues but in weekly payments.

It was decided also to retain our lawyer at $50 per month fee.

The salary of the Business Agent was increased to $60. per week.

Also the proposal of Local 637 of Chicago calling for a reduction of the per capita tax from 80 cents to 60 cents per member was endorsed.

Some persons still owe the Union Attorney sums of money. The shop stewards are attempting to collect this week. Any sums owed after this week will be deducted from dues payments as provided in the constitution.

Fletcher Smith is looking for talent Animators, Assistants, Inbetween, Inkers and Painters.
The Studio pays the regular union minima, in fact, in some classification is above it.

Two more "promoters" have approached our B.A. inquiring about the possibilities of securing talent. As we put it, it is a question of supply and demand. it is a question of offering more money.

If intersted in any change, see the Business Agent.

Helen Fletcher back from... Molly Warren leaving Famous for Conty Nast .... Ralph Sancier back at Terry... Joe Voght a new Father, and for many years at Metro, now at Harman's.... The atmosphere at the A.A.F. Animation Unit at Culver City is a bit strained at the moment, because the T.O. came out and there were not enough striped to go around... Rub Grossman very busy during the holidays...Marine Corp. Don Roman of Dismey's and Screen Gems in town.... Ozzie Evans, of Culver City, now a Sgt... Nancy Massie back at the Animation Dept. at the Signal Corp... Lots of new names at Fletcher Smith Studio... Judy Weiner honeymooning.. .."New Gulliver"Russian puppet film to open soon at the Stanley Theatre. George Canata going back to Hollywood... Nesta Thomas in Miami.... Vip Partch going into the Army "or something"...Cecil Beard has a new little girl... Dan Danglo working on a paper which is being distributed throughout the West Coast..Alice Rinaldi flying back to Hollywood as Joe is asking for overseas duty... From the Animator:"Bob McKimson new Unit Director at Warners;Phil Monroe sports new Sgt. Stripes; the second annual cartoonists golf tournament was won by Mike Lah (78) Jerry Nevius Father of a baby girl; Corp. Robert Doerfler on furlough, after 3 years overseas with a Purple Heart" ... To her many friends here in New York we are glad to say that Celine Miles is doing very well at Scientific Films...

TRADE NEWS

In the West Coast the Cartoonists are appearing before the W.L.B.submitting their proposed contract with Disney, as they were unable to reach an agreement with the Company... At George Pal only 6 of the workers of that plant remain at work, refusing to work with a non-union employee whose permit has expired.... Walt Disney announces that the company contemplates expansion of its plant facilities at a projected investment of $100,000....

EDITOR'S COLUMN

Occasionally we are asked "Why do Unions mix into politics?" "Why don't they just attend to union affairs and lay off political matters? This question is especially important at this time when our Executive Board has recommended that the membership endorse the C.I.O. Political Action Committee.

The answer to this question is a simple one. The advancement of labor depends ,to a tremendous degree upon what laws are passed by Congress. If anyone doubts that,let him consider what the state of our Union would be without the Interstate Commerce Act guards the worker his rights to organize. On the other hand consider the plight of workers in totalitarian countries, where unions do not exist or are unable to participate in political action.

"Well, then" we are asked "Why participate as a Union? Everyone has the individual right to vote."That is the same argument that has always been used when labor has tried to organize. "Why form a Union? You have the right to bargain individually with the Employer". Very few union members don't know the answer to that one...and,the same answer applies to labor's position in politics. Together we can effectively fight for the laws and the men we feel have our interests at heart.

This all leads to the question of the Political Action Committee. Despite all the partisan spouting, the PAC has onlt three aims.

1) To bring the issues at stake to the attention of the people.

2) To secure the largest possible number of people to vote.

3) To bring the records of the candidate to light.

As members of a union we must not fail to endorse these principles in this important year of decision.

There have been only 23 requests returned to rum the animated cartoon "Hell Bent for Election," Since the number is too small to cover the $15 expense, the idea must be shelved unless more people request the showing.

Once again the Amalfi Agency,15E 40th St. had an ad in the New York Times looking for Inkers and Animators.

Burned as we were last time, we called our B.A. to investigate what it was all about. The Agency was not interested in cooperating with us, as they "had trouble with you before"(when we didn't let our members sign 10% of their salaries to them.) We hope that with a Union representing us, we will instruct those responsible to find out things for us and we will ignore the sweet calls from Amalfi Agency.

It is advantageous to all those who work in the cartoon industry here or the West Coast to remind theatre managers or ushers that they desire to see cartoons shown in the neighborhood theatres and to occasionally encourage these managers to run cartoons if they do not already do so.

WLB OKAYS XMAS BONUSES

A War Labor Board announcement says employers may pay Xmas or year-end bonuses of $25 or less to each em-

T O P C E L

Vol. 1, Number 19 New York Oct. 9, 1944

Screen Cartoonists, Local 1461
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EDITORIAL

This week we all have the important job of registration ahead of us. Never before in our country's history has registration meant as much as it does to-day. It is not necessary to explain why this is so. We all are familiar with to-day's issue. But the important thing this year is not only to be sure that YOU register and vote, but also to see that your FRIENDS and RELATIVES do so too. Each person should feel that he or she is personally responsible for getting out as many voters as is possible.

We have frecuently heard people say in the past "What difference does my one vote make?" Well, to-day it makes a tremendous difference. New York State is on the doubtful list. No one knows for sure which way it will swing. It has long been a state that has elected Democratic Governors. In the last two elections however, it has gone on the Republican side.

In 1940 when Lehman defeated Dewey by a very small margin, THE SHIFT OF ONLY ONE VOTE IN ALL THE ELECTION DISTRICTS OF THE STATE WOULD HAVE REVERSED THE RESULT OF THE ELECTION.

The Union is passing out cards this week to try to insure 100% registration in the studios. Please cooperate fully by returning these cards to your stewards or if not working mail them back. We will print the results in a future issue of Top Col. The hour of registration are 5:00 to 10:30 P.M. Monday Oct. 9 through Friday Oct. 12. On Saturday October 13 from 7 a. m. to 10:30 p.m.

REGISTER TODAY!

OUR UNION

At an extraordinary meeting of the membership, it was decided to do away with the Bonus Plan worked out with Famous Studios and submitted to the War Labor Board for approval. In lieu of it, the Company has promised to give individual raises.

At the same meeting, the C-I-O Political Action Committee was endorsed by the General Membership.

For our next General Membership Meeting, Tuesday Oct. 10 at the Commodore Hotel:

To add a new classification to our Famous Studio contract, called Animators "A". The Board does not want to establish another classification and wants the company to recognize this. Simply recommends it to facilitate the handling of the raises by the W.L.B. With this new arrangement, the approval of each individual animator raise by the Board is not necessary.

The adoption of a new contract to be presented to Fletcher Smith Studios.

The establishment, for those unemployed, of a minimum $2 dues.

As the Members decided that Work Permit people should pay as much as full members, from $2.50 to $4.50, it is recommended that their dues be paid monthy rather than weekly. If a person starts working within the first 15 days of the month, he or she will pay full dues for that month. If the application is made within the second 15 days, she or he will pay dues starting the first of the following month.

To allow the Business Agent a weekly expense account of $15.

To ask the Membership to reconsider their decision of retaining our lawyer with a regular monthly fee, and instead, to pay him for services rendered only.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

"I'm sure that everyone who viewed "Hell Bent for Election" in our theatre last week enjoyed it very much. (Dems. & Repubs. both.) It was an excellent animated job in every way, and the fellows who did the job on the coast deserve a lot of credit, as a shining example of what the cartoon medium can do. Many thanks to Woody Gelman, who went to all the trouble of hiring the peiture and projector and running it for all of us. Support Woody to give us more stuff and ideas like that. (s) Dave Tendlar"

From India Nat Friedland writes: "Being a member of the industry and Union I have long been interested in the Union activities now that it has actually come into being. I can think of no better way of keeping those posted, who cannot be there to participate than "Top Cel" Have seen one copy and Think it is a great little paper. Keep up the good work. Would appreciate your sending me "Top Cel" in the future. My regards to all the gang at Famous Studio."

MORE ON DUES

Due to the vacation, increases and other factors, the collection of dues is lacking. Due to the laxness of the stewards 136 weeks of payments by people on work permits were lost. This is due to the rapid turnover of people in the studios. According to the contract dues must be collected after 2 weeks of employment.

Top Cel has also been asked to inform the members of Famous Studios that the agreement with the management will henceforth be enforced. This is the agreement that specifies that only members in good standing be employed.

FLIPPINGS

Esther Dayton Pattengill and her husband Bill came within a hairsbreath of drowing last week. They were in a boat that overturned. A farmer fished them out after 45 minutes in the water....Al Geis writes us from the coast that he is happy to be back.... Jim Tanaka and Gene Sogioka from Famous now at Fletcher Smith.... Angel Jimenes, a new Cpl....Lt. Paul Fanning leaving soon for "a very interesting job over seas..." Cliff Augustson sending his regards to his friends here... Our "Top Cel" to Harry Arpadi returned with the note: "En route to U.S."... Dick Jones, a brand new Lt. still stationed at Long Island.... Ten new girls at Terry. One stayed longer than three days... Metro and Lantz requesting the services of Sid Pillet...Bill Henning found six mushrooms growing in his living room after the hurricaine..... Dolly Heenan, former Rockette, now at Terry's..... Art Wells at USN Unit..... Dittie Mc Avoy quited School to come to Terry.... Louis Schmidt and Betty still looking for an apartment. Time is runing short.... Buddy Wexler and Mario Trombetta transferred to Famous. .... Dorothy Rahmer at Terry.... Sadalyn Glickman and Lucille Kaplan left Famous for the Signal Corp. ..... Howard Baldwin new address: 435th. Bomb Scadron, 333 Bomb Gr. AAF. Dalhart, Tex. He is getting ready for overseas duty.....

EDITOR'S COLUMN

As this issue of "Top Cel" goes to press we have just learned of the untimelly death of Wendel L. Willkie. Words are incapable of expressing the sorrow that the country and labor feels for the lost of such a great patriot.

Mr. Wilkie put his country and his principles ahead of party and self. He fought for a world of peace and progress and refused to compromise or to be all things to every body. It was this unwavering honesty and vigor in his fight against reaction that must have contributed greatly to the untimeliness of his death.

In his passing Mr. Wilkie has become one of the great martyrs to the cause of liberalism and the better world.

TRADE NEWS

Industrial Films, the outfit that produced "Hell Bent for Election", according to Daily Variety has been approached by Hollywood Republicans leaders on turning out a special film for the GOP.

"The Exhibitor" a trade magazine, reviewed Famous' cartoon "It's Smart to be Thrifty" and called it "A cute and fanciful cartoon. Color, animation and ideas are tops...."

Completion of the first animated cartoon in color to be made in Mexico by Mexicans is announced by Caricolor. They have a program of six cartoons a year.

GENERAL MEETING

October 10th. at Commodore Hotel 7 p.m.

On the Agenda: B.A. Expense account Lawyer's new arrengement.

T O P C E L

Vol. 1 Number 20. New York October 22/44

Screen Cartoonists, Local 1461
11 West 42nd Street (Room 1302) - LOngacre 5-6880

Editor: G. Gelman
Pepe Ruiz, 800 Riverside Drive, N.Y. Wadsworth 3-2821
Marvin Christenfeld, 30 Broad Street, HAnover 2-8667 N.Y.

General Membership Meetings: Second Tuesday of each month.
Executive Board Meeting: First and third Mondays of each month.

OUR UNION

The Union is planning to publish a novelty cartoon folder. This will be carried out along the lines of a similar job done by the coast Union. There is a great need of cartoons and gags. November 15th. is the deadline - and 5" by 7" is the size. Every member in the animation department ought submit at least one cartoon. Give to Dave Tendlar or to our Business Agent.

GET BUSY NOW. If this project should be called off it would not be fair to the boys in the service who have so frequently begged us for cartoons nor to Dave who has already given so much of his time.

At the present time we are securing raises avove the contract minima with Famous Studios from the War Labor Board for Joe Oriolo, Lizzie Howson, Rub Grossman, Otto Feuer, Tommy Golden and Moret Redon.- The raises should be retroactive to Sep. 25. -

TRADE NEWS

John Sutherland and Larry Morey have decided upon the name of "Daffy Dittys" for their new Technicolor animated cartoons series for UA release.

Trade Review: "Pitching Woo at the Zoo".- This is the best of the series since it went Technicolor. The reel has more than the usual number of laughs. Popeye is kept busy rescuing his Olive first from a wolfish animal keeper and then from a leopard's cage. The exhibitor will have no trouble with this one.

Suit has been filed against Disney in the Superior Court (Calif.) for the enforcement of the arbiter's award granting the workers two days pay for X'mas and New Years.

EDITORIAL

At the last General Membership meeting, a decision was reached almost unanimously by the body. The following day many persons at Famous who had not attended the meeting were quite upset over the decision. This is not the first time that the absentees have demonstrated their remarkable hind sight. However, this latest judgement is of no value unless these persons make their opinions felt by attending meetings and voting.

When a special meeting was held last week to reconsider the decision of the regular General Membership the attendance was pitifully small.

Our Union cannot function effectively when the members do not support it wholeheartedly and sacrifice the small amount of time that is required so infrequently.

It is because of this that the Executive Board last week made a recommendation to the General Membership to fine members $ 2.00 when they skip three meetings in a row. This motion should be passed unanimously, for if a person cannot find time to come to at least one meeting in 3 months, he shows that he is hardly deserving of the benefits of a Union. A GOOD UNION BENEFITS ITS MEMBERS BUT IT REQUIRES SOME SACRIFICES IN RETURN. (The recommendation will be taken at our next General Membership meeting, November 14, at New Rochelle)

FLIPPINGS

Willard Bowsky in town, slated for overseas.... Nesta Thomas back at Fletcher Smith from Miami.... New girls at Terry: Polly Bowine, Phyllis Mc Langhlin, Gerry De Nunzio, Carol Nordell, Dona Madol, Marjorie Ann Tobin, Kay Smith, Peggy Sutton, Nancy Lee Jones and Doris Walker.... Prudence Rifici and Mario Trombetta left Famous.... Katherine Chaille left Famous for Fletcher Smith.... S/Sgt. George Baker's book "Sad Sack" selling like hot cakes. We recommend it highly.... Sara Tsuroka promoted to inking at Famous.... After six months Sid Pillet found a home.... Hurrah!.... Ed Rehbeck getting along nicely. He does not miss the ribs taken out he says.... Lee Donahue working on strips. He wants Top Cel.... Dotty Oldsbury and Dot Daugherty back at Famous.... Edna May Regal new Boss at the Painter Dept. at Famous.... Denny Cunnigham is leaving Metro back to Miami.... New girls at Famous: Carrie Richardson, Beverly Levitsch, Lillian McCormick, Sylvia Palansky and May Violante....

EYESIGHT SERVICE

Non-Profit Organization Advises On Vision Correction

The Optical Membership Plan of New York is a non-profit organization which ought to be better known and which now operates under a charter for the benefit of 40,000 subscribers. For an annual payment of only one dollar by a subscriber who is a member of an employe group of fifty or more, and of $1.50 if he is unaffiliated, advice is given on the correction of defective vision.

A subscriber's eyes are examined by an ophthalmologist (medical eye specialist).

A university-trained optometrist measures vision and prescribes glasses. Since the ophthalmologist and the optometrist can make no privat profit, there is no temptation to prescribe unnecessary glasses. For those who need them, eye exercises are specified at a reasonable monthly fee. Eyes are not treated for disease, nor is any medical service rendered. If the ophthalmologist detects a disease of the eye he advises a confirmation of his diagnosis and treatment at the hands of some competent specialist.

More than seventy large industrial organizations now subscribe for this valuable service.

* * * * * * * * *

Famous Studios and Terrytoons have both made announcements to the Union concerning Election Day. Famous Studios wishes to remain closed the entire day with the understanding that the employees will work six hours on the following Saturday.

Terry's desires to give the Studio two hours off on Election Day.

The Executive Board received a letter from our attorney Marvin Cristenfeld proposing, in view of our present economic condition, to give us legal aid without compensation.

The Board, instead, decided to recommend to the General Membership the payment of $150 for work done outside of our contract. For instance, the Bonus plan at Famous that was turned down by the Board for lack of information, took many hours to prepare, to discuss, and to arguewith the War Labor Board. Now again he is working in securing from the WLB the approval for the payment of the money earned under the proposed bonus plan and discontinued after the Board denial. He has represented us before the War Man Power Commission, Wages and Hours Division and now again he is securing approval of individual raises. This should clear us with him as up today.

Pepe Ruiz, on instructions of the Painters and Inkers, has reached a tentative agreement with Famous Studios where after certain averages are reached by each girl, the company would increase the salaries above the minima. The girls mentioned in the original list, would get their raises retroactive as Oct. 23. The Inbetween Dept. as a whole, will have to decide what it wants to do. (Before making it official, we are consulting the W.L.B.)

At Terry, the WLB declined to sustain the position of the Guild that the $4.70 ordered by them was retroactive to Feb. 1. They take the position, with the Company, that the agreement reached by us with Mr. Kerwin in order to speed up the case, made us lose any other rights we may have had.

T O P C E L

Vol. 1 Number 21 New York November 6/44

Screen Cartoonists, Local 1461, AFL.
11 West 42nd. St. (Room 1302) LOngacre 5-6880

Editor Woody Gelman

Pepe Ruiz, 800 Riverside Dr., N.Y. WAdsworth 3-2821
Larvin Cristenfeld, 30 Broad St. NY HAnover 2-8667

General Membership Meetings: Second Tuesday of each month
Executive Board Meetings: First and Third Mondays of each month.

GENERAL MEETING
November 14th. at New Rochelle, 7 PM.

OUR UNION

In our issue two weeks ago we were told to remind the members that their dues were over due. Since then 75% of those in arrears have proven that actually it was an oversight, as they are paid up today.

Another month is here already and some people owe more than one month. That is specially so among the new Work Permit artists at Famous. A small meeting was arranged for them a week ago but the results were not very noticable.

We have a union-shop agreement with Famous, which means that not only the members but the Work Permit people have to be in good standing as condition of employment. The Union is planning to check with the Company by November 15 to enforce that agreement. Consequently, every one at Famous should be paid up to and including the month of Nov. by the 15th. Dues will not be accepted unless the lawyer's assesstment is paid up.

Please DON'T pay to our Business Agent. See your steward, the one in charge of that funtion.

Terry: C. Vinciguerra and Phyllis Shagrin.

Famous: Background, Bob Little; Story: A. Blashko; Camera: Eli Levitan; Painting: Judy Weiner and Doris Zvirin; Inking: Alice Rehberg; Inbetweening: Shirley Knoring, Animation: Joe Deneroff and Johnny Gentillela.

There were two different type of Bonuses for the Animation Department at Famous. One, the proposed bonus plan under the contract the now so called 30-60%, and the other, completely apart from the contract, of $2.25 and $3.75 a foot in excess of 24 feet. All payment has been made for the 30-60% bonus, according to the Company.

As to the $2.25 and $3.75, we are applying to the War Labor Board for approval to allow the company to pay. The following is the list of the people to whom the money is due under that second bonus and the amount owed to them:

J. Carreon: $45; I. Dressler $306; J. Walworth: $251.25; T. Golden: $116.25; G. Place: $202.50; L. Riley: $110.25; A. Pross $105.75, P. Di Angelo: $45.00 and L. Zukor $123.75

Bonuses for inkers, painters and inbetweeners are being computed.

FAMOUS PARTY

The girls of the Coloring Department are throwing a party at the Capitol Hotel, Friday Nov. 17 at 7:30 p.m. There will be plenty of home made entertaiment, dancing and the brew will flow. The girls extend an open invitation to the Studio members, the Terry crowd and specially, the Signal Corp fellows.

"ON A SUBWAY TRAIN"
(From Letter to the Editor of PM)

"Dear Editor: The two soldiers sitting in the subway train had seen a lot of action. A look at their campaign ribbons showed that. One boy was what some might call a "typical" American -tall, rawboned, freckle-faced; the other was small and slight, obviously of Japanese heritance. A man stood in front of them, glaring at the Japanese-American boy. Then he gave vent to a stream of profanity that accused and denounced that boy because he dared to have Japanese blood, and has the audacity to wear an American Uniform. Neither of the soldiers said a word. At the next station, they got off the train. As they started to move forward the door, it was apparent to every person in that car that the Japanese boy was blind, and needed the other man to guide him. (s) Gertrude Berger."

FLIPPINGS

Jim Logan, now a Cpl. writes from China that he'd like to hear from some of the T-T's. ASN. 32803996, Co. C, 835 Sig. Serv. Bn., A.P.O. 488, c/o. P.L. N.Y. .... Irving Dressler to the army... Jimmie Claby

runing by accident into Andy Anderson in London....Perry Rosove attending gunery school at Denver... Jim Till back in San Francisco after two years wit the Larines in the Pacific.... Abner Kneitel's wife expecting a baby in Fal... Sgt. Carmen Eletto and Pvt. Frank Napoleon applying for membership from India... Bernadette Pillet working at Metro... Helen Bromback back on the 13th. after some trouble with eye strain.... Dick McDermott took third place in the "Art Fair Show" The President of Decca saw one of his Guam drawings in PM and wrote the Marine Corps trying to get the original for his collection. He did! .... Dave Tendlar back after a brief vacation in Ohio.... Dick Alexander a First Lieut. already with 35 missions, just returned to combact from a rest leave in Sidney... New at Famous Back Ground Dept., Lloyd Hallock.... Marea Bishop now settle in Texas subject to Army regulations .... Phil Di Paolo in town.... Joyce Martin new at Terry's.... Finally we heard from George Giroux. He is still in the U.S. .... From the Animator: "Katherin Coleman now Mrs. Allen Perkins; Norm Wright left Disney; S/Sgt. Stan Walsh awarded the Air Medal with an oak leaf cluster; Bill McIntyre now a Captain after his participation on Saipan... Don Lusk promoted to Master Tech.Sgt; Fred Grable left Lantz."

EDITORIAL: A GREAT MAN

Voters have already made up their minds about their choice in the presidencial race. But the feeling this year has run so high that there has been a tendancy to subordinate interest in the other candidates. This is unfortunate, particularly at this time, since the voters of New York have a choice in the senatorial race that is worthy of much consideration.

No matter how one votes this year in the presidential race, everyone should see to it that Senator Robert Wagner retains his seat in theSenate. Rarely has the electorate had the chance to vote for a man of such proven ability and sincerity. Much of the great social legislation of the past 10 years, which has been praised by republicans and democrats alike, has been introduced or sponsored by Bob Wagner. His achivements for the man or woman who works for a living are without parallel. He deserves much of mankind, and for his part, he intends to do much more for it.

TRADE NEWS

Bill Pomerance chosen as Business Agent for the Screen Writers Guild. During next few weeks while winding up negotiations forthe Cartoonists, he will divide his time between the two offices. He will be succeded as B.A. of the Hollywood Local by Maurice Howard, currently in charge of the San Jose office of the Calif. Labor Dept. Howard is expected to take over his new job following his election by the membership on Nov. 15.

The Local in Hollywood will appeal the decision of Superior Judge Willis who refused to confirm arbitration award against Walt Disney Studios for appro. $10,000 Arbiter held approximately 400 employes are entitled to pay for last New Years' and Christmas. Studio had contended payment should not be made hor holidays because they fell in same week with a Saturday, for which employees received time and one half.

George Pal started his "Hatful of Dreams" new Puppetoon, with two new puppet characters featured, Pucnh and Judy. Another series are announced with a new character named Panchito featured, conceived as bid for Latin America market.

Morey and Sutherland Productions gets new film under way, titled "Mexican Serenade. Cartoon is fourth in work for UA release.

Walt Disney films made for the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs will be used in a new television program titled: "The World in Your Home", sponsored by the RCA Victor Division to start Nov. 17 over NBC's New York television station WNBT.

Walter Lantz has closed deal to mak one-reel cartoon for non-theatrical showings and promotion of electrici for group of 260 light and power companies. Lantz assigned Ben Hardaway and Milton Schaffer to prepare script.

AT PARAMOUS

The Union aks the members to cooperate with the management in an attempt to keep the studio in a mo tidy condition. Since there is a shortage of help, assistance is particularly required in the handly of refreshments.

If your Local Theatre shows a cartoon you like -tell the manager. If they don't show cartoons, ask for them.
At our next General Membership Meeting the recommendation to fine member $2 when they skip three meetings will come up. Also payment of 150 dollars to our attorney.

T O P C E L

Vol. 1 Number 22 New York, Nov. 20, 1944

Screen Cartoonists, Local 1461
11 West 42nd St. (Room 1302) - LOngacre 5-6880

Editor: G. Gelman.
Pepe Ruiz, 800 Riverside Dr., N. Y.
WAdsworth 3-2821
Marvin Christenfeld, 30 Broad St. N.Y.
HAnover 2-8667

General Membership Meetings:
Second Tuesday of each month.
Executive Board Meeting:
First and third Mondays of
each month.

OUR UNION

The following motion was passed at the last General Membership on November 14th at New Rochelle:

"Moved, seconded and carried; to establish a rule that members must attend at least one out of three consecutive meetings and that offenders be fined equivalent to a month dues and that they shall be fined additionally for each meeting consecutivly missed there after. This ruling to be effective as of December 1945."

It shall be noticed that the members themselves desired this ruling in preference to one suggested by the Executive Board calling for a $2 fine for a similar offense.

TRADE NEWS

This issue of"Top Cel" is given over almost entirely to a reprint of THE ANIMATOR of Nov. 13, 1944 sent to us by air-mail. It deals with the recommendation of the War Labor Board panel on the Disney negotiations. We feel that this information is of primary interest, so we are dispensing with our usual features for this issue.

Once more this proves the importance of close relationship with our sister union on the West Coast. What affects Hollywood affects us and vice versa. "Top Cel" shall alsways undeaver to maintain this close relationship and good will.

The following material is self explanatory:

The Highlights of the recommendation of the War Labor Board Panel, consisting of a labor member, a representative of industry and a public member, are outlined below. The Company and the Union have ten days in which to make comment on the Panel's recommendation. The recommendation, along with these comments, will then go to the Tenth Regional War Labor Board in San Francisco. On the basis of the recommendation they will then set down an order. We will then have a decision. The decision of the Tenth Regional War Labor Board can then be appealed to the National War Labor Board in Washington, this is the final step.

STORY

Story Director and Storyman (The Union withdrew the wages as a dispute from the WLB as this matter probably will have to be decided in the Treasury Dept. Hearings are now being held with the Treasury concerning writers in the industry.)

Storyman Specialist, (Story Sketch, Continuity Artist, Narration writer, etc.)	minimum	$85.00
Apprentice	1st 4 mo.	65.00
"	2nd 4 "	70.00
"	3rd 4 "	75.00

ANIMATION

The Panel recommends the elimination of Class II except as a tryout for one year with the possibility that where agreement is reached between the Union and the Company this time can be extended.

Inbetweeners

The Panel recommended an increase of $2.50, from $35 to $37.50.

SCENE TECHNICIAN

Scene Technician

The Panel recommended the elimination of tryout for one year leaving the minimum at $85.00

Animation Checker

The Panel recommended the minimum be raised from $55 to $60.

INKING

Inkers

The Panel recommended a $5.00 increase, from $32.50 to $37.50.

PAINTING

Painters

Recommendation for a $5.00 increase, from $30 to $35.00.

Assistant Supervisors Ink and Paint

Recommendation for an increase of $2.50, from $50 to $52.50.

Checkers Ink and Paint

Panel recommended a $2.50 increase, from $35.00 to $37.50.

Paint Laboratory - Mix and Match

The recommendation was for a $2.50 increase, from $35 to $37.50.

Dispensary

An increase of $5.00 recommended, from $25 to $30.00.

The Panel further recommended that the WLB proceed to establish brackets for industry based on actual rather than contract rates and to use those brackets to decide the issue of wages.

We have listed above only those recommendations of the Panel which were changes over the old contract. The Local will no doubt protest the wages in the low end they are still not as high as wages paid common laborers in the motion picture industry, (laborers are paid $1.05 an hour, $42.00 per week)

On the sixth and seventh days - the Panel recommended 1½ time for the sixth day, and double time for the seventh day. Days off because of holidays, illness or accident on the job, lack of work, or a leave of absence to conduct union business, are to be counted in computing the sixth and seventh days for the purpose of paying overtime.

Dinner money - The Panel denied our request for dinner money after two hours of overtime for those earning $50.00 or less per week.

The Panel recommended the payment of straight time for holidays that fall on Saturday.

Vacations - The Panel recommended one week vacation after six months, and 2 weeks after 1 year; and further recommended: "All employees who are laid off or discharged without cause after six months service shall receive payment in cash for all accumulated but unused vacation credit at the rate of 5/6 of a day per month."

The Panel denied the Union's proposal for accumulated sick leave. but, in denying it, made the following statement:

"The Panel, in considering this issue, feels that there is merit in part of the Union's proposal, particularly with respect to the accumulation of unused sick leave. However, recent National War Labor Board decisions on sick leave make it pretty clear that its present policy is not to order the institution on the liberalization of sick leave plans even though stronger grounds exist than are present in this case. For this reason, we recommend denial of the Union demand."

Military Service Provision - Our demand was denied although the Panel stated, "As for military severance pay, it has been the firm policy of the National War Labor Board to refuse to order such provisions in union contracts, even where the practice, in fact, already existed. Under the circumstances, without considering the reasonableness of the Union's demand, we must recommend denial also on this point."

On the Re-release of Motion Picture Cartoons and the Re-release of Motion Picture Cartoons in Television Form - "The Panel has concluded from the information and arguments adduced at the hearing and in the briefs that this matter is a proper subject of collective bargaining and therefore recommends that the Board order the parties to negotiate thereon either until a settlement is reached or until a reasonable length of time has expired without agreement." The Panel recommended if no agreement was reached after a reasonable time the WLB would then take a hand in the decision. As you recall we requested the funds from re-release to go to the men in service and television funds to go to the unemployed fund. There has been no end of name calling on this issue, and we are particularly amused at the red baiting. We would like to hear the same people, who are red baiting us for this demand, talk to Mr. Petrillo of the Musicians who has just received not only a similar decision from the Board but agreement with RCA and Columbia has been reached granting them ¼¢ for .35¢ discs, ½¢ for .50¢ discs, 3/4¢ for .75¢ discs and .01¢ on $1.00 discs. This will bring the Musicians Union about $4,000,000 a year for unemployment purposes. Aren't Cartoonists entitled to the same protection as Musicians?

The rest of the industry particularly actors, writers, directors and cameramen have shown tremendous interest in our arguments in relation to the proposal. Don't let anybody fool you in talking about the size of our demand - 20% of the gross. That is not the issue since the Company has refused so far to make an offer of 1/10 of 1%.

We are also amused at O'Rourke's usual ranting in the trades wherein he threatens and talks in terms of the possibility of attacking the legality of the War Labor Board itself from "several sides". When the WLB refuses to grant us increases he not only goes along but he even refuses to join us in asking for increases for people earning $30 a week and then there is no problem raised of fighting the legality of the Board's position.

Severance Pay - The Panel denied the Union's demand for Severance Pay.

Maternity Leave - The Panel recommended, "Each female employee shall be granted a maternity leave of absence for two months prior to the expected date of birth and two months thereafter. Seniority rights shall accure to such worker during the period of maternity leave of absence, but that period shall not be counted in computing vacation and sick leave. Female employees on maternity leave shall be paid for all their accumulated sick leave." We were not given all we asked for but we recognize this as a step in the right direction.

As a result of the discussion at the last Executive Board meeting your attorney and Business Agent are preparing a letter of comment for the Board.

The industry representative on the Panel dissented from the majority on every single issue where it was recommended

that the members of the Union receive a benefit. He only concurred in those things where the Panel denied our demand.

FROM LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From Hollywood: ".... the boys always enjoy reading your "Top Cel". Every once in awhile I hear some nice remark about it like - you have to read "Top Cel" to know what is happening out here.... The situation out here is more or less in a jumble.... Ray Pattin may resign as President as he has left Warners and is now working for a small outfit headed by Jim Davis. Al Amatuzio our Vice-President is resigning as he now has a management job at Disney. The boys all seem to be unhappy and want to move from studio to studio. Several fellows are trying to get availability slips to leave for Davis's and Industrial Films and a number are trying to do the same to go to Harmans. Apparently the I. & P. depats. in all the studios are having a terrible large turnover.... Now for the other side of the picture. - Disney is trying to tie up all his to men with seven year contracts for seening a very busy post war period. Our Assistant to the Business Agent through in some figures at us the other night (he is on the television comm.) that it is estimated that after the war when television get rolling they will be showing eleven thousand television hours per year. He compared that with 600 moving picture hours produced per year. Of that it is estimated from 75 to 90 per cent will be films - and that the cartoon will be getting a good hunk of that. So the postwar picture should be a very busy one for the cartoonists.... Let's hear from you and be sure and send the "Top Cel"...."

STUDIO PARTY

On Friday evening Nov. 17, the Coloring Department at Famous held a party at the Capitol Hotel. It was, by all odds, the most successful social event held at that Studio since it was relocated in New York. Most of the credit goes to Edna May Regal and Bernice Steinberg, both of whom put in many long hours of preparation for the show.

To Madalyn Laghezza, Lilian Chiodo, Rosalie Socolov, Carrie Richarson and Maurice Alevy in particular, and to the Opaquing Dept. goes the rest of the credit.

The party entertained over 300 people, including a good number of service men.

Since the expenses, unavoidably ran quite high, it has been suggested that a voluntary contribution be made to help repay the girls in part for their swell gesture.

TOP CEL

VOL. 1 NUMBER 23 — NEW YORK, DEC. 10, 1944

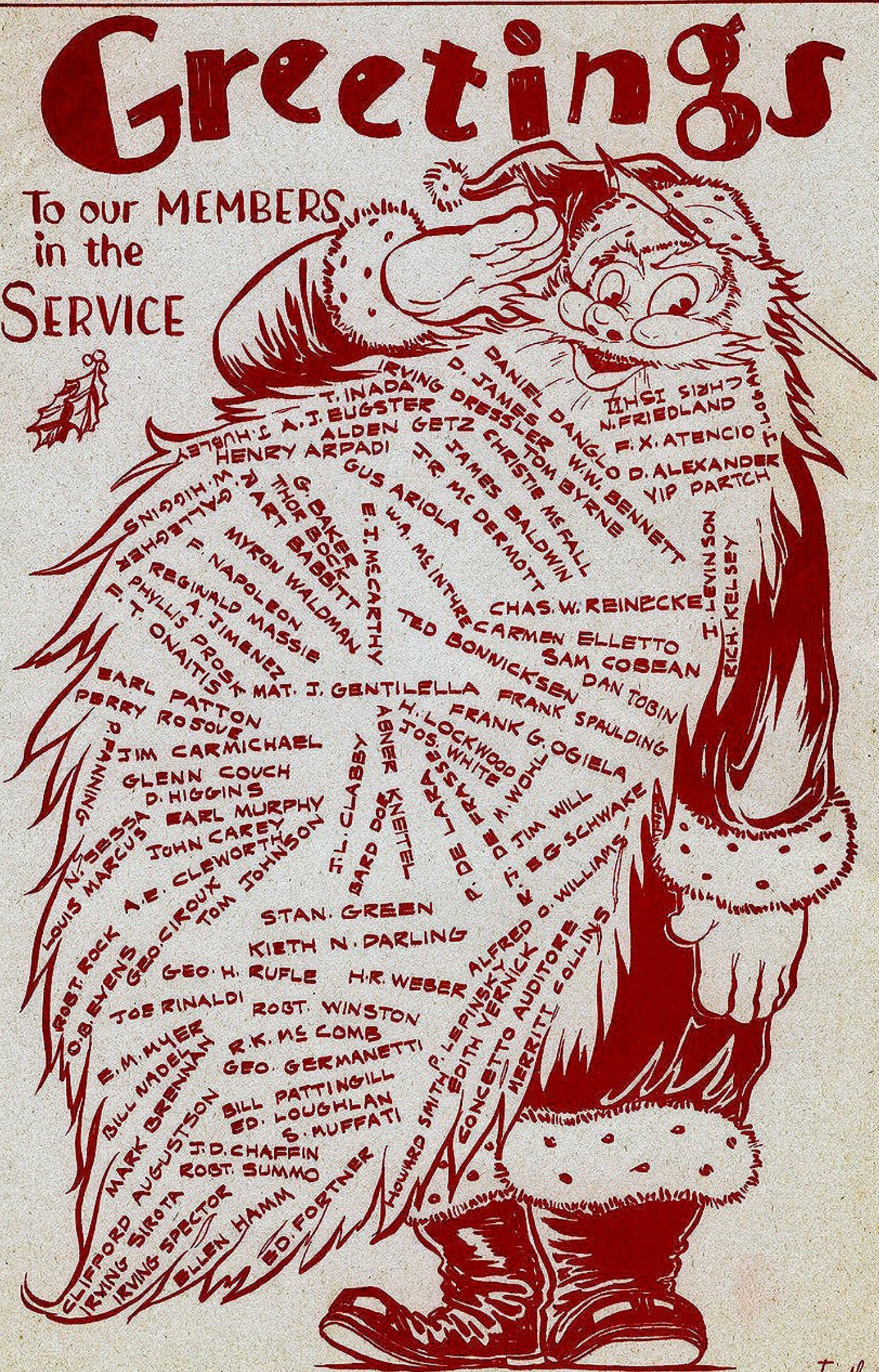
SCREEN CARTOONISTS, LOCAL 1461

11 W. 42 ND. ST. ROOM 1502 LO.-5-6880

EDITOR- WOODY GELMAN.

Greetings

To our MEMBERS in the SERVICE



Tendlar

OUR UNION

Our regular General Membership meeting for the month of December will take place, as usual, the second Tuesday, that is, December 12, at the Capitol Hotel, Eighth Ave. and 50th. St. Time 7:30 p.m.

According to the ruling passed at the last meeting, that will be the first at which the fine will be in effect. From now on, members must attend at least one out of three consecutive meetings, otherwise they are subject to a month's dues fine.

The Executive Board decided that in order to keep the record straight, there will be lists with typed names of the members for them to sign at the end of the meeting.

The Executive Board has reached an agreement with Famous Studios in order to carry out our agreement with them to employ only members in good standing without the comotion that takes place when the check is made. From now on, on the first Friday after the 15th. of each month the members should deposite in boxes prepared for this purpose, their membership cards or work permits, showing they are in good standing, that is, paid up for the current month.

From now on, Stewards will sign the memberships cards. TAKE SURE YOU FIND YOURS. Work Permit holders will receive a special card/ It is hoped that members will take care of their dues before the last moment.

Johnny Gentilella, Chairman of the Membership Committee, has been instructed by the Board to secure applications, plus the down payment, of the initiation fees for those Work Permit holders working at Famous for six months. We ask their cooperation as we would like to have a good group taking the oath at our next meeting.

From the last Executive Board meeting: To a request from Theresa Bernstein for a Withdrawal Card, the Board denied it, on the ground that the worker was not a full member but a Work Permit holder.

The Board is recommending to the General Membership to include the film cutters in our agreement with Famous. The workers in that Dept. should start paying on their work permits as of December.

After litsening to further material ofgerred by two workers at Terry, and after consulting our attorney, the Board decided that the facts of the grievance brought before it, were considered as having no merit to be taken before the Dept. of Labor Mediation Board.

The Boardrecommended that the Famous assistants get together to suggest their own plan for obtaining animation. The plan of the whole group will then be considered by the Executive Board.

AT THE WAR LABOR BOARD

Application is being made to the Board by Famous Studios and the Union for permission to pay the bonus money earned under the contract bonus plan during the period it was in operation Mar. 13 to Sep. 15. This covers every one in the studio except the Animation Dept. According to the Company, only the Inkers, Painters and Inbetweeners earned bonuses. The inkers earned a bonus only for two two-week periods. If anyone in anyother dept. feels that this computation by the Company is not correct, he or she should immediately contact the B. A. for an explanation.

In the last Executive Board meeting Pepe Ruiz reported on the application for approval before the WLB, for raises above the minima and for the Animator and Assistant Bonus Plan. Both requests were denied. In the case of the raises to five animators, one inbetweener and one background artist, the WLB, rather than to give individual approbals, wants to establish a range in which the company could give the increase without asking for them.

In the case of the Bonus Plan, the Board is requesting further information which we are sending them. So we'll have to wait a little long for those raises, as well as for the new ones promised by the company. In any case, all increases are retroactive as to the time the agreement was reached with the studio.

TRADE NEWS

Al Amatuzio has resigned as Vice Presidnt of the Cartoonists in Hollywood. Maurice Howard was taken as Business Agent. "Top Cel" wishes him well. He reported to work on Dec. 1. Up to now he was in charge of the San Jose office of the Calif. Dept. of Labor.

The entire membership of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences will vote in the final selection of short subjects for Academy Awards under a recommendation drawn by the Short Subjects Branch. In the past, judging has been done by a committee

of Academy Officers and members of the Board of Directors. Three awards will be given for shorts; one for the best cartoon, one for the best 1,000 feet subject and one for the best between 1,000 and 3,000 feet.

Members of the Dishey Unit had a Carnaval de los Tres Caballeros at Oakmont Country Club with all guests wearing Latin-American costumes. The decorative and background effects were designed by the members at that plant.

The "Three Caballeros" new Disney feature will be trade shown nationally by RKO on Dec. 11. Disney, like Famous, is to release 18 cartoon shorts in 1944-45 against 9 last season.

Possibility that television in theatres may depend on a short "throw" of the telecast image is being closely watched by Trans-Lux because of its patented rear-screen project. T-L feels that it will fit closely in the tdevision picture because of reported close contact with General Electric and the current distribution deal with Radio Corp. of America.

INBETWEENS

Pvt. Frank Spalding, now with Animation Unit in England would like to hear from us: "ASN. 42034911, Training Film Branch, Army Pictorial Div., APO. 413, c/o P.M., N.Y. ..... Marge York left Famous... Jim Will ready for duty after a few weeks at a San Francisco Hospital... Bill Hudson to the Army Dec. 21... Teddy Pike Hudson going to Miami... Terry Bernstein left Famous to wait for the stork... At Famous, the Coloring Dept. has decided to give their desks a new coat of paint. Curtains and pictures will be hung real cozy! ... Kamma Phelps taking Marge York's place... Dick McDermott having some of his paintings exhibited at the Marine Show at Fifth Ave. and 44th. .... Alice Rinaldi asking us to send her Top Cel to Los Angeles... Borthday congratulations to Annie (Pie) Gardner. Inkers gave their mascot surprise party.... Sorry we omited Irene Rowland on the list of the Stewards at Terrytoons.... Zeke de Grasse expending a 10 day pre-embarkation furlough in Los Angeles..... June Tuthill leaving her Famous job for California....

EDITORIAL

With this issue, we are satisfying a long felt desire. This is the first time Top Cel has printed any pictorial matter. The thanks must go to Dave Tendlar who drew the Santa on the front cover and to Joe Goteri who did the job of lettering the mast head and the 100 names of our members and friends in the service.

Since Top Cel represents several hundred cartoonists, it is altogether fitting that we utilize our columns occasionally for the reproduction of cartoons and general art work by the New York and Hollywood members. We would like particularly to receive work from our boys in the armed forces. Any sketches about the soldier's experiences would be especially welcome. And how about a couple of rejects from some of our more famed friends, Baker, Ariola, Vip, Cobean, Adams, etc.?

We would accumulate whatever sketches we receive and print them up when we have a page ful. Address your drawings to Woody Gelman, Screen Cartoonists, 11 W. 42nd. St., N.Y.

. . . . . .

As the great war goes into its sixth winter, the casualty lists come in with an ever increasing number of names. The war has settled down to a tremendous battle of attrition. Now, more than ever before the wounded need blood. It is useless to explain why the blood is needed; we all know the reason. This is merely a reminder.

Within the last two weeks, Johnny Gent, Bill Hudson, Violet Szigeti, Eli Levitan, Bill Heins and others have given blood to the Red Cross. HOW ABOUT YOU?

INSURANCE

For the benefit of all we reprint Sec 126 of our constitution:

A beneficial member, not 50 years of age shall be entitled to benefit as follows:

a) Death or Total and Permanent Disability

$50	on 1	year's	in good	standing
100	on 2	"	"	"
200	" 5	"	"	"
300	" 10	"	"	"
350	" 15	"	"	"
400	" 20	"	"	"

b) Wife's death benefit of:

$25 on one year's continuos good standing.

$50 on two or more years' continuo good standing.

T O P C E L

Vol. 1 Number 24. New York, Dec. 20/44

Screen Cartoonists, Local 1461
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General Membership Meetings:
Second Tuesday of each month.
Executive Board Meeting: First
and third Mondays of each mon.

OUR UNION

The first General Membership Meeting under the new fines system took place under much confusion. A few hours before meeting time it was discovered that a mistake was made and another group was occupying the meeting room. After a wait of one hour the Union finally ootained a room.

The members accepted the Fletcher Smith contract (described elsewhere in this issue) and accepted the recommendation of the Board to add a classification, Film Cutters, to the Famous contract.

The Union and Famous Studios will appeal to the War Labor Board for approval of the raises for 5 Animators, 1 Background Artist and 1 Inbetweener.

Another way of obtaining these raises would have been for the Company to have established a wage range within which they could have given increases. (This refers to the voluntary raises which can be given by the company without W.L.B. approval, providing the Studio stays within the strict limitations of the law.) However, the Company nixed this.

The Business Agent announced that a plant has asked him to secure Painters for $38.75 per week, AFTER tax deductions are made, and Inkers for $42.10, also, AFTER deductions. However, it is a SIX DAY WEEK position. If any member here or in the West Coast knows of anyone that has experience or any one that wants to change, please contact Pepe. At Famous our Inkers are making $[illegible].00; at Terry $29.00 and at Fletcher Smith $32.50. Out of that you get the regular deduction for taxes but it is a five day week job.

Famous Studio again is announcing some raises. Luo Zukor $10, J. Walworth $5 and Ruth Platt $2. From the Painters, Violet Szigeti $4; Doris Zvirin $2; Beulah Kirschner $2; Eileen Melamed $2. The Inkers, Jean Ortelli, Rose M. Bracco, Tillie Lippman, Rhoda Grapek, Norma Spaulding, Nona Turner and Rose Haskel will receive $3 increases. The raises are retroactive to Oct.30th. However, these raises, as the previous ones, will have to wait until the Board approves it.

FLETCHER SMITH CONTRACT

The members, in our meeting of the 12th approved our agreement with Fletcher Smith Studios, after the workers of that plant Oked it.

The main feature of the contract is its simplicity - one and one half pages with all the conditions covered byt the other contracts, and with a minimum of legal language.

The main characteristics are the same as Famous, Terry or the West Coast.

The Wage Scale runs as follows:

Animators I	$95.00 p.w.
" II	75.00
" III	65.00
(4 mo. trial period)	
Assistants	55.00
Breakdowners	45.00
Inbetweeners	35.00
Layouts, I	100.00
" II	80.00
Story, I	100.00
" II	75.00
Background I	75.00
" II	65.00
" III	55.00
Inkers	32.50
Painters	30.00
Checking, Planning or Matching	40.00
Supervisor	55.00
Camera	75.00

Working hours are 8 per day, 40 per week, with over-time after 8 hours. Male employees are entitled to six days sick leave and female employees twice that amount. Grievances not settled within 10 days shall be taken to the New York Mediation Board. The employer agrees to place upon his films our insignia.

The Vacation clause reads: "All employees shall be entitled to one working day vacation with pay for each month of employment in one year. Vacation shall never exceed two weeks. Upon termination of employment employees shall receive payment for all accumulated but unused vacation credit."

On Severance Pay it says: "On termination of employment, all employees shall receive severance pay at the rate of one half day's pay for each month of employment. No severance pay shall be paid to any employee who resigns."

We feel very gratified over the last two clauses because they are quite a marked improvement over our previous contracts. The minima are also better.

The members decided to allow all the workers at Fletcher

to become members on a $5.00 initiation fee until the end of the month. We hope that all of the artists in the place take advantage of the opportunity. Dues will start as of Jan.

INBETWEENS

Bart Doe now in Camp Livingston, La. ....Renee Sabatello, formerly from Warners, now in N.Y....Terry Lind back to work after illness....Myrle Munson left for Miami....Grim Natwich, star ball player, at Lantz....Mildred Levine is Sam Buckwald's new Secretary. Congratulations! Ethel Miller left Famous....Art Babbitt, after taking special course at the Museum of National History in N.Y. with the Marine Corp Aviation Intelligence, graduated with honors. He is the only enlisted man that attended that school.... Margaret Coy joined the Waves and is now at Hunter College....Denny Cunningham and Frank Kelling at Fletcher Smith. Frank is in charge of the Animation Dept....Jerry Dvorak in town for a couple days....Bernadette and Sidney Pillet at Lantz....Elaine Cone joins her husband, Lt.Grossman, in Washington....Dan Noonan, QM 1/C, in Los Angeles on furlough....Howard Baldwin moving again....Pepe says he will exchange any popular brand of cigarette for a pound of sugar.... The Signal Corp getting ready for a big celebration this coming Christmas.

EDITORIAL

The signing of the Fletcher Smith contract is another milestone in the progress of our Union. We are moving forward to the point where every animated cartoon producer in the East will bear the Union's label.

Most significant improvements in the new agreement are the excellent Vacation and Severance clauses and some raises over the West Coast minima.

Our congratulation go out to Mr. Fletcher Smith whose open mindedness and sense of fair pay did much to facilitate the execution of the contract. We look forward to a long term of good-will in employer-employee relationship in that plant.

TRADE NEWS

Conferences are scheduled between Cartoonists in Hollywood and Metro on contract dispute. The Company has offered to accept wage scale set by WLB in Walt Disney case, but offer has been nixed by union. If studio continues to hold out, SCG may insist on payment of time-and-one-half after eight hours and check up system for dues, similar to that now in force at Disney. Dispute will be certified to the W.L.B. unless a last-minute agreement is reached.

Walt Disney studio announced that decision of U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals confirming a National Labor Relations Board ruling that Art Babbitt had been discriminated against would be appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court. Gunther Lesing, Disney counsel and veepee, said the decision was diametrically opposed to War Labor Board ruling, which has concurrent jurisdiction with the NLRB and was a deviation from the Selective Service law. Under ruling, Babbitt, one of the leaders during the Disney strike several years ago, would be entitled to recover thousands of dollars in salary and company would be required to offer him employment upon his discharge from the Marine Corps. Babbitt declared he was discharged because of his union activities.

Walter Lantz announces plans for making series of four reel abbreviated features to combine live action with new process of clay figure animation developed by him and Edward Nassour. Studio space on Sunset Blvd. is being acquired for the new enterprise.

General Henry Arnold visited the 18th AAF base unit in Culver City. He stated that the Unit "is doing an excellent job with the training films being produced there."

Harry Bridges and union labor groups have on file here suit against Westbrook Pegler and Hearst Publication, Inc. for $600.000, charging libel.

Morey and Sutherland Prod. will put two new characters into a series of Daffy Ditty cartoons for United Artists release. This series of cartoons will be on the 1945 release schedule of UA.

Metro has shelved temporarily all other activity to concentrate in turning out special job for "Anchors Aweight" for the Main Lot. The workers will expend next month in picturing large mouse character performing dance with Gene Kelly for fantasy sequence in production. Task requires nearly 600 ft. of film already shot of actor doing dance. Animators, according to Variety, has been working for over two weeks and it is expected that job will necessitate day and night work for over a month more.

The Paramount Office in Paris had only two pictures on hand when the Nazis evacuated. They were Gulliver's Travels and Live's of a Bengal Lancer, both of which were getting tremendous patronage.

A group of 24 Hollywood unions and guilds have pledged $118,475 in bond purchases toward sponsorship of a hospital plane.An additional $6.525 is still to be raised by 6 or 7 organiz. that have not yet made their reports.